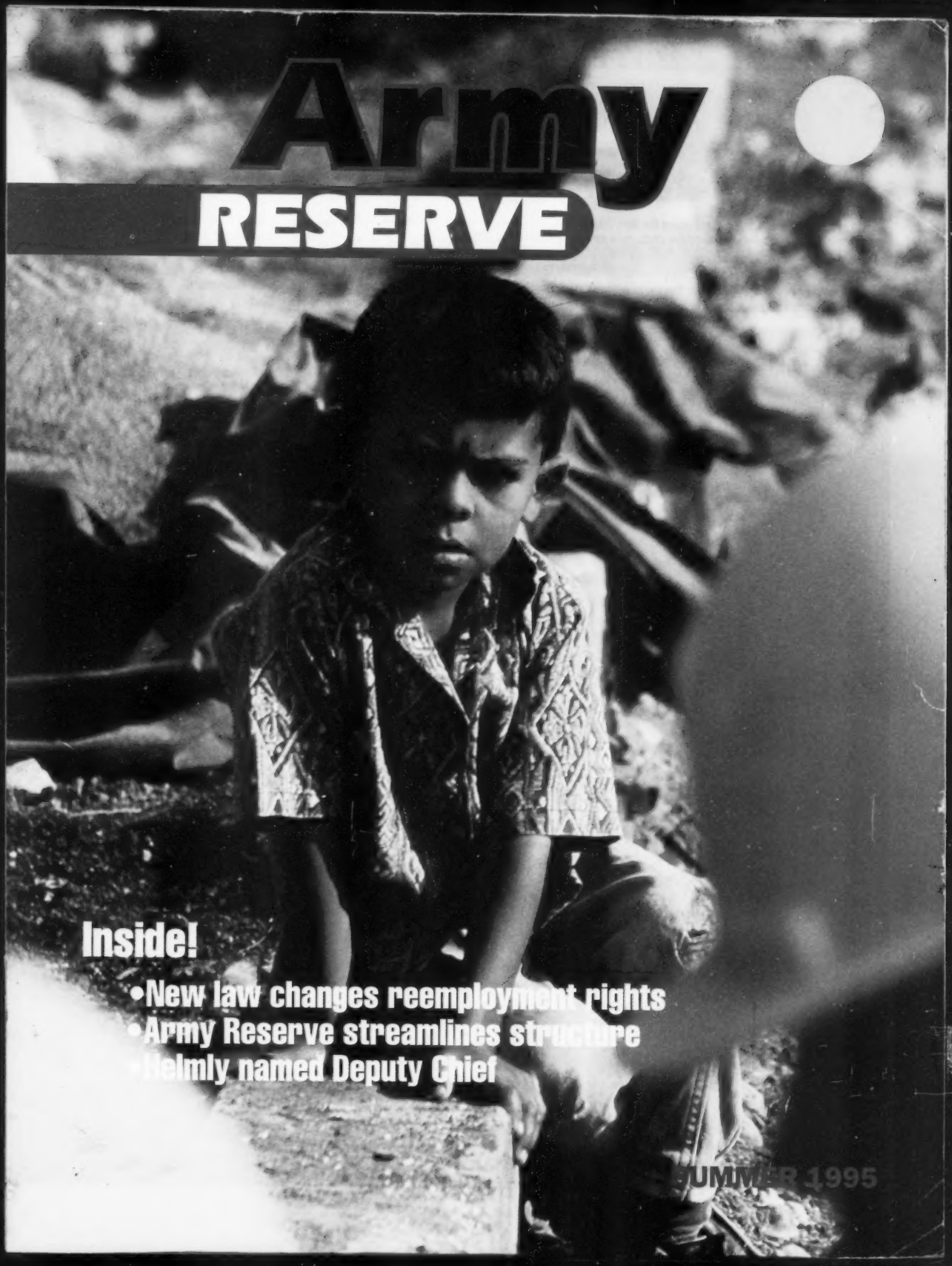
Army RESERVE



Inside!

- New law changes reemployment rights
- Army Reserve streamlines structure
- Helmly named Deputy Chief

SUMMER 1995

ROME, ITALY. *June 4, 1944. Soldiers of the 88th Infantry Division are the first of the Allied armed forces to enter Rome – beginning its liberation from the Germans. Members of the 88th Reconnaissance Troop pursue the Germans as they withdraw their main forces to the north. Today, the colors and insignia of the 88th Division are carried by the 88th U.S. Army Reserve Command, headquartered at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Army Reservists contributed significantly to the Allied victory in World War II with Reserve soldiers making up nearly 25 percent of the Army's officer forces. In a typical Army infantry division, most of the middle grade officers were Reservists, including more than 60 percent of the battalion commanders and 85 percent of the company commanders.*

Winner of two national awards!

Army Reserve
Magazine

Since 1954. America's largest circulating military magazine.

Volume 41, Number 1 **Summer 1995**

FEATURES

8 BUT IS IT PARADISE?
Well of course it is. But training in the remote islands of the South Pacific does have some drawbacks.

10 TRANSITIONING TO CRAZYHORSE
Fueled by the downsizing of the active Army force, an Army Reserve unit accepts a critical, "real world" intelligence mission.

12 OPERATION CARIB '95: THE BAHAMAS
An engineer battalion deploys to Nassau, Bahamas for a three-month joint training operation sponsored by U.S. Atlantic Command.

14 WATER FOR AN ISLAND
Soldiers dredge a dry lake, increasing the capacity of Puerto Rico's water supply by 11 million gallons.

15 A BAILEY BRIDGE FOR THE BIRDS
The bridge aids conservation officials in rebuilding eroded wildlife habitat along the Mississippi River.

16 WHAT ARE MY REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS?
A new law extensively revises the old Reemployment Rights Act of 1940, and some of your rights have changed.

19 BAD REPORTING HURTS READINESS
The accuracy of a supply sergeant's reports impacts on Congressional funding.

21 IMAs BREAK A 'LOG' JAM
Individual Mobilization Augmentee soldiers support the Army's logisticians at the highest levels of the Army.

22 BUILDING A DREAM
A South Carolina domestic action project offers realistic training and brings joy to the lives of children.

23 BIKER SANTAS
Soldiers and bikers support the annual Kicks for Kids toy run.

26 MEDICS OPEN DESERT OASIS
Called in for a temporary mission, an Army Reserve DEPMEDS provides the Navajo nation with quality medical care.

DEPARTMENTS

FROM THE CHIEF 4
UPDATE 5
SPARE PARTS 24
PEOPLE 25
MAILCALL 28
ARMY SHORTS 30

Front cover photo by Spc. Robert J. Dromgoole. *Abron Riveria, 8, watches intently as American and Guatemalan soldiers build a school in the village of El Tablon, which he will one day attend.*
Back cover photo by SFC Greg Deimel. *Spc. Angela County climbs the stairs to tower 7 at the Multinational Force and Observers South Camp, Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.*

MAJOR GENERAL MAX BARATZ
CHIEF, UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES M. NIELSEN
CHIEF, PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"The Secretary of Defense shall require the complete and current dissemination to all Reserves and the Public, of information of interest to the Reserve Components."
Section 278, Title 10, U.S. Code

Army Reserve Magazine

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES M. NIELSEN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: DIANE DOVE, LTC PAUL SINOR, DR. JEFFREY R. DUFRESNE

CONTRIBUTORS: MSG CLAUDIA BEACH, SSG TROY FALARDEAU, SSG JOHN BERRY, LTC PAUL ADAMS,
SGT ANTHONY MARTINEZ, MAJ MARK ZIMMER, MAJ CHRISTINA ANDERSON, CPT AMELIA JOHNSON,
MAJ KATHY PERRY, MSG ROBERT HAIRSTON, SGT TED BARTIMUS, JENNIFER WASMER, SGT ELIOT JARDINES

PHOTOGRAPHERS: CPL KENT AMBROSE, SSG WILLIAM HOFFMAN, SGT BRENT PRIBIL, PETER BAKER, MSG NESTOR TAMAYAO

ARMY RESERVE Magazine is an official Department of the Army publication, published quarterly by the Chief, U.S. Army Reserve, DAAR-PA, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310-2400 in accordance with Section 278, Title 10, USC. The Secretary of Defense has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of public business as required by law. Use of funds for printing this publication was approved by the Secretary of the Army on September 2, 1986 in accordance with provisions of AR 310-1. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of the Army or the Chief, Army Reserve, nor should they be construed as official policy or directive in nature. Local reproduction of all materials is approved, except for copyrighted articles or photographs.

ARMY RESERVE Magazine invites articles, story ideas, photographs and other material of interest to members of the United States Army Reserve. Manuscripts and other correspondence for the editor should be addressed to ARMY RESERVE Magazine, 1815 North Ft. Myer Drive, Suite 305, Arlington, VA 22209-1805; telephone (703) 696-6212 or DSN 226-6212, fax (703) 696-3954. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs will not be returned. Query by letter.

ARMY RESERVE Magazine is distributed free of charge to members of the United States Army Reserve. Circulation 675,000. Paid subscriptions are available for $5.50 per year, domestic; $6.80 foreign. Single copy price is $2.00 domestic, $2.50 foreign. Mail a personal check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents to: New Orders, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954, or fax your order to (202) 512-2233. Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

[redacted] do not write the magazine. Members of Troop Program Units should notify their SIDPERS-RC clerk. Members of the Individual Ready Reserve and Individual Mobilization Augmentees should contact their Personnel Manager at ARPERCEN, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63132-5200. Paid subscribers should forward their address change to the Superintendent of Documents, Attn: Mail List Branch SSOM, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Special military distribution recipients may write the editor directly.

From the Chief, Army Reserve

Staying ready and relevant

The reorganization and restructuring in the field is almost two-thirds completed, and I think it's important to once again discuss why it is important to our future.

We can't have an Army Reserve organization that's archaic and based on old principles. We need an organization that stays up with the times; that is ready to launch into the future; and is affordable. The restructuring does all of those things. It's affordable, it's modern, it meets the Army's needs, and perhaps most importantly, it maintains the relevance of the Army Reserve. If we're not relevant, America's Army won't need us.

Maj. Gen. Max Baratz

With the mandated downsizing we thought it was important not to just take soldiers out of the Army Reserve, but overhead as well. The overhead - the ARCOMs - is expensive, and was based on the old Cold War and the activities that related to the Cold War. By taking down the overhead from 20 ARCOMs to 10 new commands with new missions, we've given the Army Reserve a much more robust command structure.

The change to Regional Support Commands and Support Groups is not just a change in name. Their new missions in base operations support, financial management, and added engineer and environmental responsibilities, give them the ability to run much of the day-to-day operations of the Army Reserve.

This frees our go-to-war commands – the engineer commands, TAACOMS, COSCOMS, transportation commands – from their administrative and logistical burden and gives them time to train.

Our first mission is still to make go-to-war units, primarily combat support and combat service support units, and we ought not to forget that.

Our second mission is to project the force out of the country with our port, airfield, and garrison units.

Our third mission is to train, and we'll do that through two types of divisions. By the end of 1995, five exercise training divisions will be stood up to conduct collective training. Within two years, seven new institutional training divisions will be reorganized to conduct Initial Entry Training for trainees and professional schooling for individuals. The collective, individual and initial entry training will be done both for National Guard and Army Reserve combat support and combat service support units.

So there's a lot going on in the Army Reserve these days – brand new formations; brand new ways of doing business. The complete transformation in the field will largely be over in the next 18 months, making the "new" Army Reserve affordable, modern, relevant, healthy, and ready to meet the challenges of a modern world. As the U.S. Army Reserve restructures and repostures itself into a better type of troop unit organization, we will be better able to serve our country. ★

Army Reserve streamlines command structure

Plan improves readiness and lowers cost

THE TRANSITION INTO THE ARMY Reserve's new command and control structure is well underway, with full implementation slated for September 1996.

The reorganization, which targets the Army Reserve's continental United States headquarters structure, will streamline operations, reduce operating expenses and improve its readiness to go to war. The old structure was based on the needs of the Cold War and defense activities relating to the Cold War.

Twenty U.S.-based regional headquarters – Army Reserve Commands (ARCOMs) – will be eliminated and replaced by 10 Regional Support Commands (RSCs) reporting to the U.S. Army Reserve Command in Atlanta. The 63rd, 77th, 88th, 89th, 94th, 96th, 99th and 124th ARCOMs will retain their numerical designations as RSCs. To preserve the historic, proud warfighting lineage of the 81st and 90th Divisions, the 121st ARCOM will become the 81st RSC and the 122nd ARCOM will become the 90th RSC.

Three Regional Support Groups (RSGs) will be formed from the 90th, 120th and 123rd ARCOMs and will report to the new 90th, 81st and 88th RSCs, respectively.

Seven ARCOMS will inactivate during 1996 as a result of this reorganization. The inactivating ARCOMS are the 79th, 81st, 97th, 86th, 83rd, 81st, 102nd, and 125th.

Regional Support Commands and Groups will have a more broad mission than their ARCOM predecessors, and will take over many functions previously managed by the active component. The new commands will be given the ability to run much of the day-to-day operations of the Army Reserve. The RSCs and RSGs will take on most of the administrative and logistical functions once accomplished by the Major U.S. Army Commands, including base operations and financial management. By consolidating these functions, troop units will have more time and resources to spend on training.

In April, 1996, a Garrison Support Unit will be stood up at each of the seven inactivating ARCOM locations, making a home for many of the soldiers assigned to the inactivating ARCOMs. The GSUs will be created as a direct result of lessons learned from the Gulf War to improve the reserve component's ability to mobilize. A Garrison Support Unit's mission will be to move early-on to an installation mobilization site to receive and process units for mobilization and deployment.

Maj. Gen. Max Baratz, Chief, Army Reserve, characterized the restructuring plan as the 'right thing' to do. "By 1998 we will have drawn down the number of soldiers in the Army Reserve by more than one-third," said Baratz. "After telling more than 100,000 soldiers that their jobs would be eliminated, it is only right that we take down some of our unneeded command structure."

According to Baratz, eliminating ARCOM headquarters will permit more go-to-war units to be retained. "The reality is that only a handful of senior officer and civilian positions will be lost. The majority of enlisted, officer, and civilian slots will be retained in the Regional Support Commands, Regional Support Groups, or in the much needed Garrison Support Units."

"The reorganization of the Army Reserve will make us relevant, affordable, and prepare us for the future," said Baratz. ★

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Sick Gulf vets to receive compensation

Eligibility covers soldiers with chronic undiagnosed disabilities

PERSIAN GULF VETERANS CHRONIcally disabled with undiagnosed illnesses may be eligible for compensation under a final rule published by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"Fairness and compassion warrant this response to our veterans who went to the Persian Gulf to make a stand against a real enemy, only to return home to combat an unknown one," said VA Secretary Jesse Brown. "Persian Gulf veterans can now get much-needed monetary assistance while we search for the cause of their undiagnosed illnesses."

Under the regulations, veterans may be eligible if their disabilities became manifest either during service in the Southwest Asia theater during the war, or within two years thereafter. A disability is considered chronic if it has existed for at least six months.

Compensation may cover fatigue; signs or symptoms involving skin; headache; muscle pain; joint pain; neurologic signs or symptoms; neuropsychological signs or symptoms; signs or symptoms involving the respiratory system (upper or lower); sleep disturbances; gastrointestinal signs or symptoms; cardiovascular signs or symptoms; abnormal weight loss; and menstrual disorders. Other signs and symptoms may qualify for compensation purposes.

Compensation will be paid to any eligible Persian Gulf veteran with a disability rated at 10 percent or more. Monthly rates currently range from $89 for a 10-percent disability to $1,823 for a disability rated at 100-percent.

The VA has established a toll-free information helpline to inform Persian Gulf War veterans and families of available medical care and other benefits. The helpline, 1-800-PGW-VETS (1-800-749-8387) is staffed with Gulf War benefit specialists during weekdays, and includes a series of recorded messages that will enable callers to obtain information 24 hours a day. ★

ARPERCEN

Officers receive PDE info fast

Computer bulletin boards speed responses

ARMY RESERVE OFFICERS SELECTED for Officer Professional Development Education courses may now receive application instructions and information electronically, according to ARPERCEN in St. Louis, Mo.

Instead of sending in a postcard and waiting two to six weeks for a reply, applicants with access to a computer and modem now can dial in, follow the on-screen prompts, and obtain the instruction memo almost instantly.

The new bulletin board system (BBS) will also include monthly vacancies in Active Guard Reserve positions. Bulletin board access is available by calling (314) 538-3094. A toll-free number will be added in the future.

Army Reserve officers who use this option will download a compressed, self-extracting file containing course descriptions, eligibility requirements and application instructions. ★

LOGISTICS

Logistics course one of Army's best

Course fulfills Lieutenant Colonel promotion requirements

THE ASSOCIATE LOGISTICS EXECUTIVE Development Course is a premier Army logis-

tics course designed to prepare participants for executive and policymaking peacetime and mobilization assignments. The course provides insights into the multifunctional areas of logistics, and their integration within the Department of Defense. It gives students a fuller understanding of the interface between the Army in the field, the DoD logistics structure, and the industrial base of the United States.

The five-phase course is available in both correspondence and two-week resident modes to qualified active and reserve component officers and DoD civilians. Captains and above with primary or secondary Combat Service Support specialities (15D, 70, 88, 90, 91, 92), and who have completed a branch Officer Advanced Course or the Combined Logistics Officer Advanced Course are eligible. Civilians must be GS-12 or higher with career status and five years experience in military logistics or closely related industrial experience.

For Army Reservists, the course satisfies the educational requirements for promotion to lieutenant colonel.

For further information, contact the Army Logistics Management College at (804) 765-4730/4636. ★

AVIATION

Refurbished U-21's delivered to USAR

Aircraft's service life extended 6,000 hours

THE ARMY RESERVE WILL RECEIVE 18 upgraded and enhanced fixed-wing, twin-engine U-21 airplanes in 1995.

The refurbished aircraft, originally delivered to the Army in the early 1970's, are rolling off the refurbishing line under the auspices of the Army's U-21 upgrade program, being conducted by Beech Aerospace Services Inc., Selma, Ala.

The upgrade and modifications include updating the avionics system; installing a global positioning navigation system; adding ground proximity warning and air conditioning systems; refurbishing the aircraft's interior; changing the window configuration; repainting the aircraft; and replacing the outboard wing spars. Replacing the wing spars will effectively extend the usable service life of the aircraft by 6,000 hours. The Army will refurbish 54 U-21s in 1995.

"We started out with an excellent aircraft and effectively extended its service life," said Lt. Col. Joseph Vins, aviation logistics officer with the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve. "The upgrade program also has allowed us to standardize the aircraft's cockpit, instrument panel and interior configuration."

There are 94 Army U-21s now in service, of which 26 are assigned to the USAR. ★

COMMAND

Helmly named Deputy Chief, Army Reserve

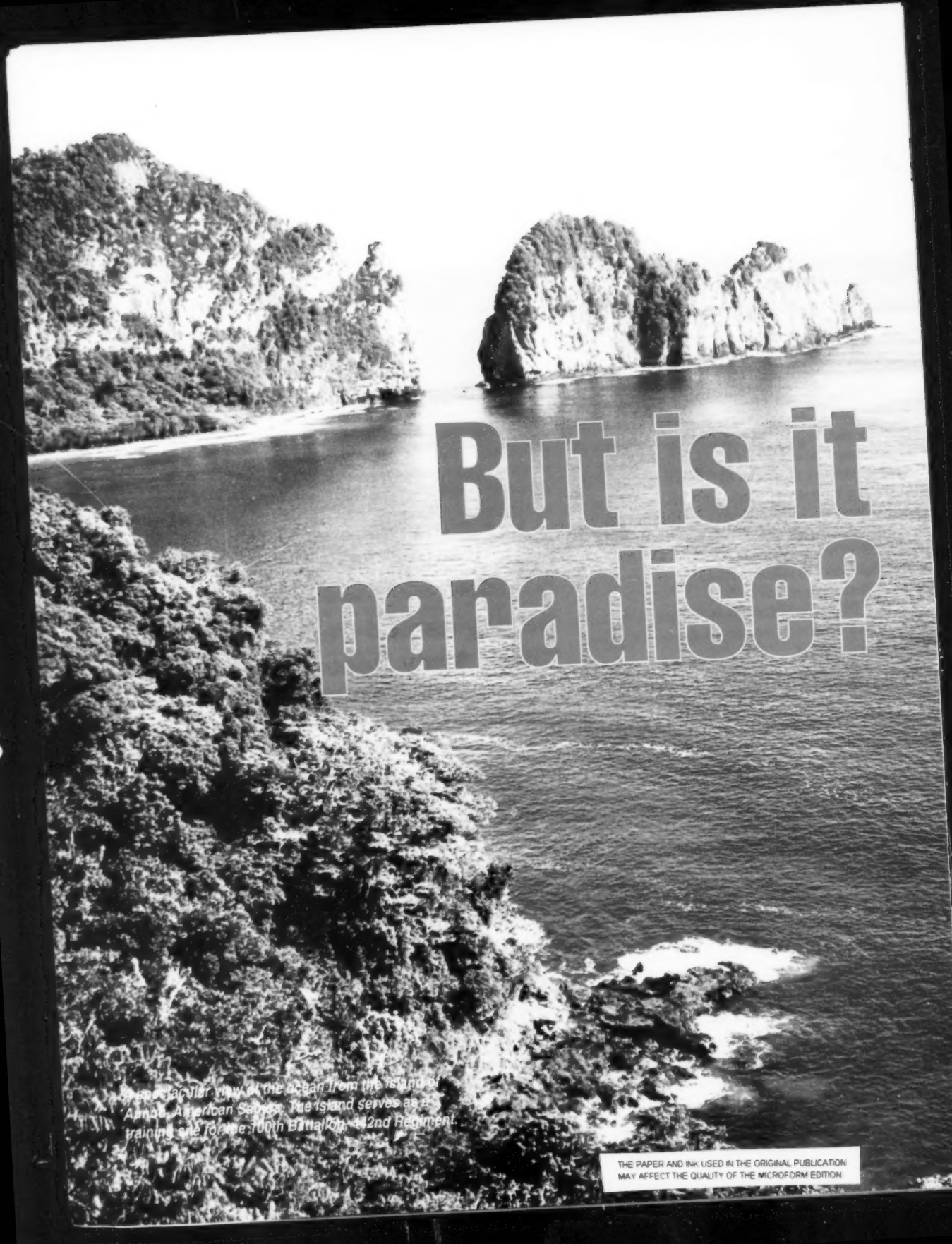
Airborne Ranger is veteran of two tours in Vietnam

BRIG. GEN. JAMES R. HELMLY HAS BEEN named Deputy Chief, Army Reserve and assumed his duties on June 26, 1995.

Helmly enlisted as a private in 1966, was commissioned in 1967, and served his first tour in the Republic of Vietnam as a platoon leader and company executive officer with the 101st Airborne Division. Following language training, he returned to Vietnam as a district senior advisor in the Di An district.

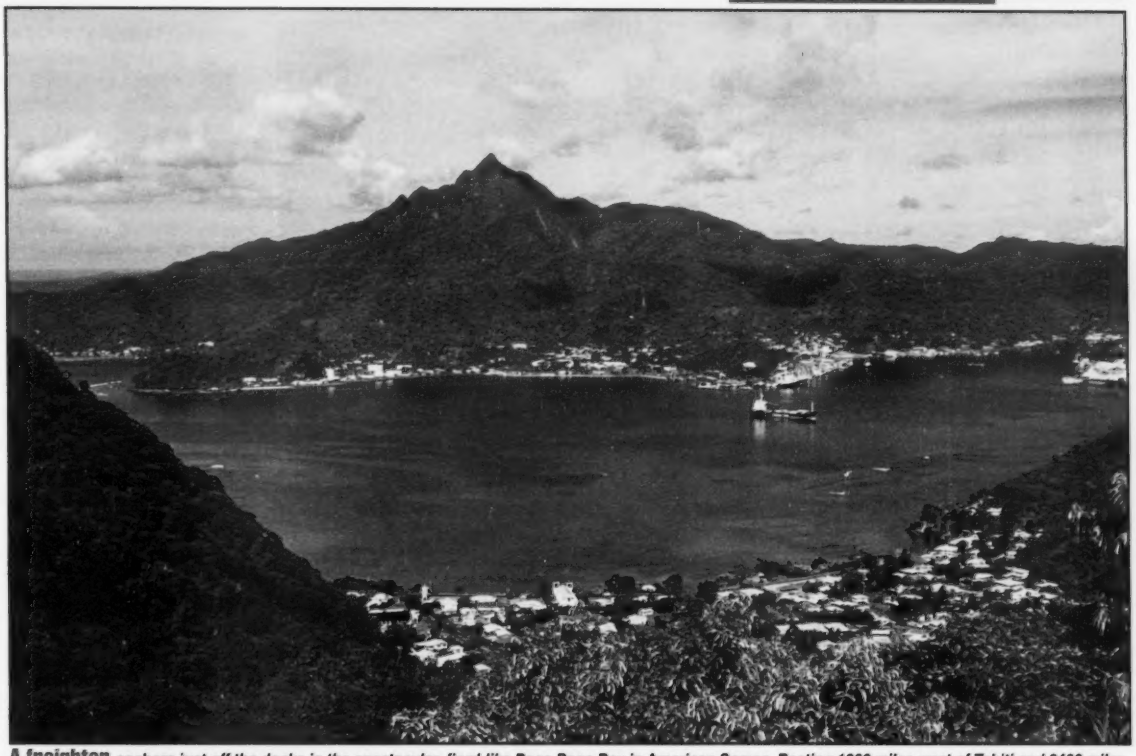
He joined the Army Reserve in 1973 and has held a number of senior maintenance, supply and logistics positions with the 81st ARCOM in East Point, Ga. His last assignment was Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel with the 81st.

Helmly is a graduate of the Army War College, and his awards include the Bronze Star for Valor (three awards), Republic of Vietnam Honor Medal, and three Meritorious Service Medals. ★



Spectacular view of the ocean from the island of Ofu, American Samoa. The island serves as a training site for the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regiment.

THE PAPER AND INK USED IN THE ORIGINAL PUBLICATION MAY AFFECT THE QUALITY OF THE MICROFORM EDITION



A freighter *anchors just off the docks in the spectacular, fjord-like Pago Pago Bay in American Samoa. Resting 1200 miles west of Tahiti and 2400 miles southwest of Hawaii, American Samoa's Tutuila island is home to the U.S. Army Reserve's 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry.*

Well of course it is. But training in the remote islands of the South Pacific does have some drawbacks.

Story and photos by SSgt. Troy Falardeau

If you thought some of your Army Reserve training sites were remote, consider the plight of the Army Reserve soldiers of Companies B and C of the famed 100th Battalion, 442nd Regiment. These soldiers are spread out throughout the islands of the U.S. territory of American Samoa, about 2400 miles southwest of their battalion headquarters in Honolulu, Hawaii. Most of the two company's soldiers live on the main island of Tutuila, where the capital of Pago Pago is located.

Every month the soldiers who live on the outlying territorial islands travel by boat or plane to the Fiatele Taulago Army Reserve Center near Tutuila's airport. For some, this expense can add up to more than half of their monthly pay check.

The Primary Leadership Development Course for these soldiers is even further off the beaten path. To get to the training site on the island of Aunuu, soldiers, instructors, equipment and all other essential items are transported via an aging double-hull boat—frequently escorted by dozens of leaping dolphins which circle the boat. Highlights of training on Aunuu include great fishing, average temperatures of 95 degrees with 95 percent humidity, frequent hurricanes, tropical fruits and a quicksand lake.

If this sounds lik the place for you, you'd better act quickly. Vacancies in the two companies fill quickly. ★

AGR soldiers *on duty at the Army Reserve center in American Samoa manage the day-to-day operations of Companies B and C of the famed 100th Battalion, 442nd Regiment.*

Transitioning to Crazyhorse

Fueled by the downsizing of the active Army force, an Army Reserve unit accepts a critical, "real world" intelligence mission.

By SSgt. John F. Berry

The Kohbergers, after packing a two-year-old son and two dogs into the car, set off for a drill weekend in Orlando, Fla.—1,100 miles from their tree farm in rural Pennsylvania.

"I have 80,000 miles on my 1991 Blazer and 30,000 miles on a car I bought a few months ago," said Sgt. Richard Kohberger.

Richard and his wife, SSgt. Margaret Kohberger, spend more money on their 2,200-mile round trip than they earn from drilling with the 138th Military Intelligence Company, an aerial exploitation unit based in Fort Myers, Fla. "I've drilled with other units closer to home—from air assault to military intelligence—but I've never found a unit that has the people or the mission this unit has," he said. "The 138th always has something going on."

What has been going on lately is transition training; converting the unit from one airborne intelligence collection system to another. The new system is called 'Crazyhorse,' a generational upgrade from the now-obsolete 'Cefirm Leader.'

"The 138th MI Company is a unique unit," said Col. Richard Dunbar, deputy director for reserve affairs at Intelligence and Security Command headquarters in Fort Belvoir, Va. "The Army has no place else to send Crazyhorse and keep it ready to support active duty missions. This is a giant leap forward for the reserve components," he added. "The active Army now counts on a reserve unit to take on a critical mission. This is not a test."

The 138th has supported live missions since the mid 1980s, but now, with the scrapping of Cefirm Leader, the 138th possesses the only echelon-above-corps, fixed-wing

SSgt. William Hoffman

Emergency landing procedures *taught by SSgt. Allan Harris includes how to cut fuel and power to the engines of an RC-12 aircraft prior to landing. Harris is a member of the active component unit transferring their intelligence gathering mission to the 138th Military Intelligence Company.*

airborne direction-finding system in the U.S. Army.

Unlike the Army's "Guardrail" units, which have similar intelligence capabilities, Crazyhorse puts collectors in the back of aircraft, giving the system flexibility to deploy anywhere in the world without a cumbersome ground control station.

According to Dunbar, reserve intelligence units can expect to take on more 'live' missions. "We're getting out of a mind-set that Army Reserve units are only available upon activation."

"We're going to be under a magnifying glass to see whether we can support these missions," added Maj. Steven Hirschkowitz, unit commander. "We'll be watched for our direction-finding capabilities."

Before being mobilized for Desert Storm, the 138th supported live missions throughout the Caribbean basin. Soldiers volunteered to make the multi-week deployments.

Originally an active duty Army Security Agency unit, the 138th served in Vietnam from 1966 to 1973. In 1974 it was transferred to the Army Reserve, and has since earned several awards, including a Meritorious Unit Commendation for Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

With the transition to a new mission and a force reduction from 250 soldiers to 160—many soldiers had to be let go.

But soldiers willing to transition and learn a new MOS, or those who possessed the new skills, faced a quantum leap in time and commitment to make the transition to the new high-tech system.

From supply sergeants to pilots, the soldiers and officers volunteered to train 19 additional training days, many of which were at least 12 hours long. For some, that training came in addition to two weeks of NCO schools.

Pilots took transition training at Fort Rucker, Ala., attending the RC-12 Qualification Simulator Course to develop an understanding of the mission of their 'backseaters.'

"We are there for the back seat, so we have to know what their needs are without exceeding the safety limitations of the aircraft," said CWO4 Charles Spillner, a veteran pilot with 30 years of experience in helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft.

"Although pilots fly the plane, the backseaters drive the mission," said Hirschkowitz. "Our primary mission is the collection of intelligence, and our aviation assets are a means to that end. Our pilots have to be more highly skilled, with special electronics training, and all have Military Intelligence as a secondary branch."

The RC-12s are the fourth type of plane the 138th has flown, each one a younger cousin of its predecessor. In Vietnam, it flew RU-8s. Then came JU and RU-21s. It now flies four RC-12s, including the only three RC-12Gs in the Army. Unlike RU-21s, the RC-12s have pressurized cabins, meaning pilots and crews don't have to breathe through cumbersome oxygen equipment above 10,000 feet, where the Army mandates supplemental oxygen for crews in unpressurized aircraft. And much to the relief of the crew, the RC-12s have air conditioning.

"This system wasn't put in the Army Reserve to lay dormant. It was put here so it could be used."

Soldiers who managed missions also attended special transition and familiarization training, including learning how to escape from a submerged aircraft. Soldiers were blindfolded and strapped into a drum, then held their breath as it was plunged into a pool and rotated upside down. They unbuckled and felt their way out of the submerged "aircraft." U.S. Navy divers ensured the soldiers found the surface.

Other soldiers went off to the Defense Language Institute to learn mission-essential languages.

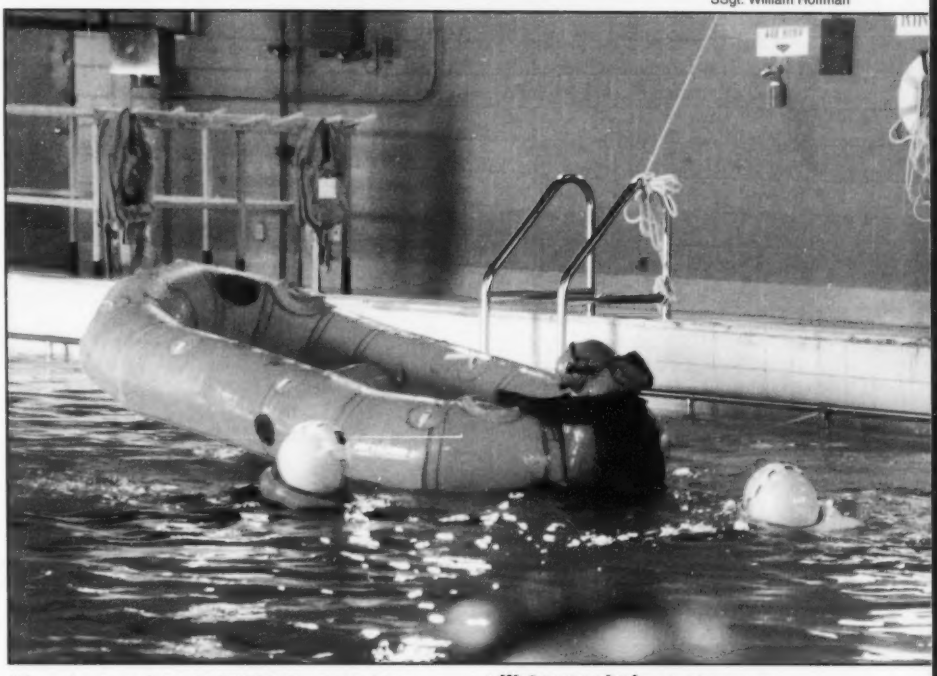
The Communication and Electronics section, however, may have put in the longest hours during the transition training.

In before 5 a.m. to prepare for 8 a.m. flight launches, the communications section ensured that Crazyhorse was at full gallop before the mission began. "We're on a tight schedule," said Sgt. Troy Smith. "We don't have the time to get on an aircraft and fumble around."

While soldiers on active duty receive four to six months training, the Army Reservists' training was compressed into 29 training days.

"You can't pull a reservist from a civil-

SSgt. William Hoffman



Water survival *and air/sea rescue procedures were taught at the Jacksonville, Fla. Naval Air Station.*

ian job and deploy him for three months on short notice," said SSgt. Lisa Thomas, a trainer from the active unit delivering the new system. "So training was all we did, keeping continuity on target."

When time came to get rid of the old equipment, CW03 Dennis Phillips, the unit's property book officer, and three other soldiers had less than 90 days to make way for the new. "We had $33 million of stuff," Phillips said, "which took 27 tractor-trailors to move out."

The 138th's administrative and training sections—bolstered with assistance from the 81st Army Reserve Command—worked overtime and weekends to complete the transition before the end of September, 1994.

"The fact that we are a Contingency Force Pool One unit gave us the higher priority for money and help," said SSgt. Susan Dowdee, the unit's finance clerk.

"In May and June, we started working this hot and heavy," said Sgt. John Casey, training NCO. "We were just pumping people into schools."

The Kohbergers and their 2,200 mile Orlando to Pennsylvania round trip were not the only soldiers coping with the demands of extra training. For some soldiers, it was time not spent with the family. For others, it was a difficult semester at college. For Sgt. Kimberly Berg, a college student and a mother of two, it was both. "The stress on the family was very high. I hardly saw my husband at all."

The additional training placed a hardship on employers as well as families.

"The employee and the employer need to realize the impact on each other," said Col. Jim Chalaire, ombudsman for the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. "As the Army Reserve accepts more missions from the dwindling active force, without good communication and cooperation, employer-employee relationships may become increasingly strained," said Chalaire.

One soldier convinced his boss that the leadership skills he learned at PLDC made him a better employee at work. Another soldier worked with his employer well in advance to balance the work schedules.

"That's the spirit that needs to catch on," said Chalaire.

But for the 138th MI Company, the new mission brought worthwhile training and interesting assignments.

"The unit wasn't put in the Army Reserve to lay dormant," said Dunbar. "It was put here so it could be used." ★

Operation Carib '95: Baham

The 926th Engineer Battalion deploys to Nassau, Bahamas for a three-month joint training operation sponsored by U.S. Atlantic Command.

Story and photos by Lt.Col. Paul Adams

When you talk with just about any one not connected with combat engineers, almost inevitably you'll hear the words, "oh those guys bulldoze tank traps, build runways, clear landmines," or simply "build roads through heavy dense jungles."

But gathered in the lobby of a quaint airport restaurant in the West Indies were six groups of uniformed-clad military combat engineers talking about nation building. Leaders were briefing leaders on what they could expect for the next two weeks.

These were combat engineers from Alabama who arrived here to continue a three-month humanitarian exercise known as 'Operation Carib '95.'

Army Reserve soldiers from the 926th Engineer Battalion, with companies located in Decatur, Birmingham and Huntsville, deployed to support the joint overseas training operation sponsored by the United States Atlantic Command.

The deployment was part of a cooperative exercise agreement with the Bahamian government to combine engineer construction, medical assistance and civil affairs. The 926th Engineers constructed a 7,000 square-foot pre-engineered metal frame, disaster relief warehouse storage facility at Coral Harbour for the Royal Bahamas Defence Force. They also constructed a single-story concrete block and wooden roof addition to the Blue Hill medical clinic.

As with any successful operation, experience is the key to success. Not only did the 926th bring truck loads of experience with them, they also had a plan to cross train their soldiers who didn't have the experience in a particular area. Thus, in constructing the Blue Hill Medical Clinic, brick layers became carpenters, carpenters became 'stucco-men,' who in turn also tried their hand at electrical work.

One of the "old hands" at bricklaying was Spc. Mark Destafino, a home builder in Birmingham.

Destafino explained, "I can see we are getting something accomplished while at the same time contributing to this community. Although I don't know all their soldiers, we are all fitting in together, while learning something new."

Since giving some refresher classes in brick-laying, it was not long before Destafino and his friends finished two rooms of the clinic.

Spc. Elliot Green, a college student, was chipping away pieces of brick wall preparing it for stucco. "This is the best experience you can get, doing what we are doing here," said Green. "This is what I joined the Army Reserve for."

While the Blue Hill Medical Clinic was progressing ahead of schedule, a 25-ton crane was hoisting roof ventilators to the

top the metal frame butler building at Coral Harbor.

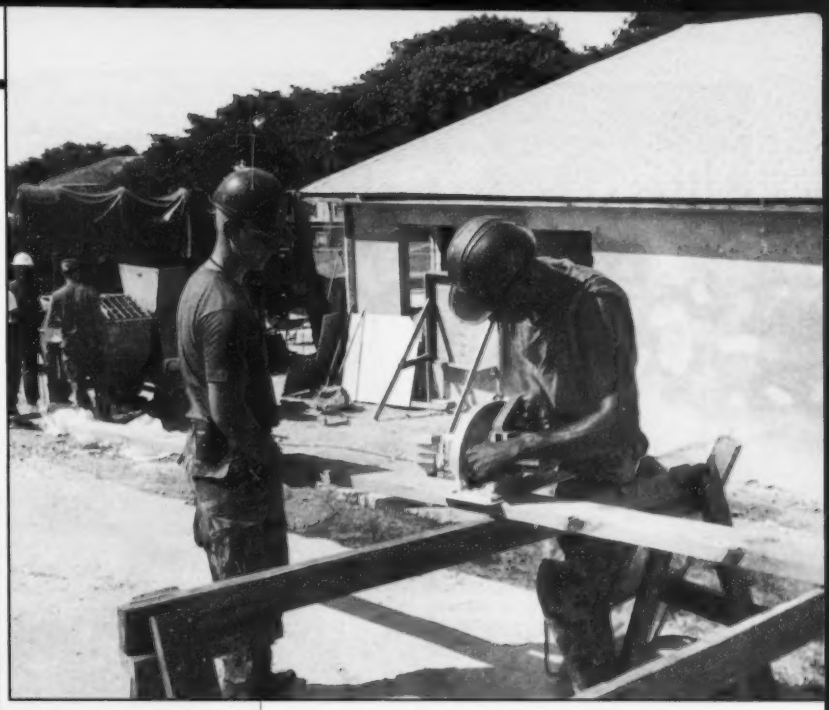
"We've hauled in roofing panels to finish the top of the building," said Cpl. William Cade, a heavy equipment operator. Although I worked in other areas in El Salvador last year, you learn to work where you're needed. The more you do, the better you get."

Being good at what they do enabled the 926th Engineer Battalion to finish the exercise related construction project and the humanitarian civic assistance project ahead of schedule.

Task Force commander, Capt. Donna Williams explained, "finishing the construction projects ahead of schedule gives us the opportunity to train on smaller projects for the Bahamian Government before we leave.

"We love to help the host nation and give the local people something useful and something they can be proud of."

When the Bahamians of New Providence Island hear talk of how the combat engineers came to their island in 1995 to lend humanitarian aid, they won't think of tank traps, runways or landmines; they will proudly remember and point to the shinning example of American-Bahamian friendship and military cooperation, the Blue Hill Medical Clinic, and the Disaster Relief Facility built the 926th Engineer Battalion (Combat Heavy). ★



Above, soldiers cut a 4x6 to install in the ceiling of the Blue Hill Medical Clinic being buit by the 926th Engineer Battalion in the Bahamas.

Below, two members of the Royal Bahama Defense Force help Spc. Paul Washington apply stucco to the outside of the Blue Hill clinic.

Water for an Island

Soldiers dredge a dry lake, increasing the capacity of Puerto Rico's water supply by 11 million gallons.

Story Sgt. Anthony Martinez
Photos by Sgt. Brent Pribil

An NCO *guides loaders to the lake's grading site.*

When San Juan, Puerto Rico, faced a record drought prompting water rationing to over one and a half million residents, the U.S. Army Reserve was called on to help prevent a future water crisis.

At the Puerto Rican government's request, the 448th Engineer Battalion was activated and tasked to move 50,000 cubic yards of silt and sand from dry Lake Carraizo, the man-made reservoir and primary source of water for Puerto Rico's capital, San Juan.

Decades of sediment had coated the lake bottom, significantly reducing its original capacity. The engineers mision was to increase Lake Carraizo's capacity by 11 million gallons.

The mission seemed simple enough — move a big pile of dirt from one place to another. However a few challenges had to be overcome.

"Access to the lake was difficult because a solid road to the shoreline of the lake did not exist," said 1st Lt. Juan Mendez, a construction officer with the 448th.

By chance, a soldier of the 448th knew a civilian who owned an unimproved parcel of land that ran from Lake Carriazo's main road to within shouting distance of the shoreline. With the land owner's permission, the 448th improved the steep and shabby road that would serve as the entrance and exit road for the operation.

"This mission is special because it allows us the opportunity to train to our Mission Essential Task List, while allowing us to benefit our community," said 1st Lt. Oscar Palermo, 448th executive officer.

With the broadening focus of the Army Reserve, the 448th Engineer Battalion brought, not only the experience and skills needed to complete this project, but the material resources as well.

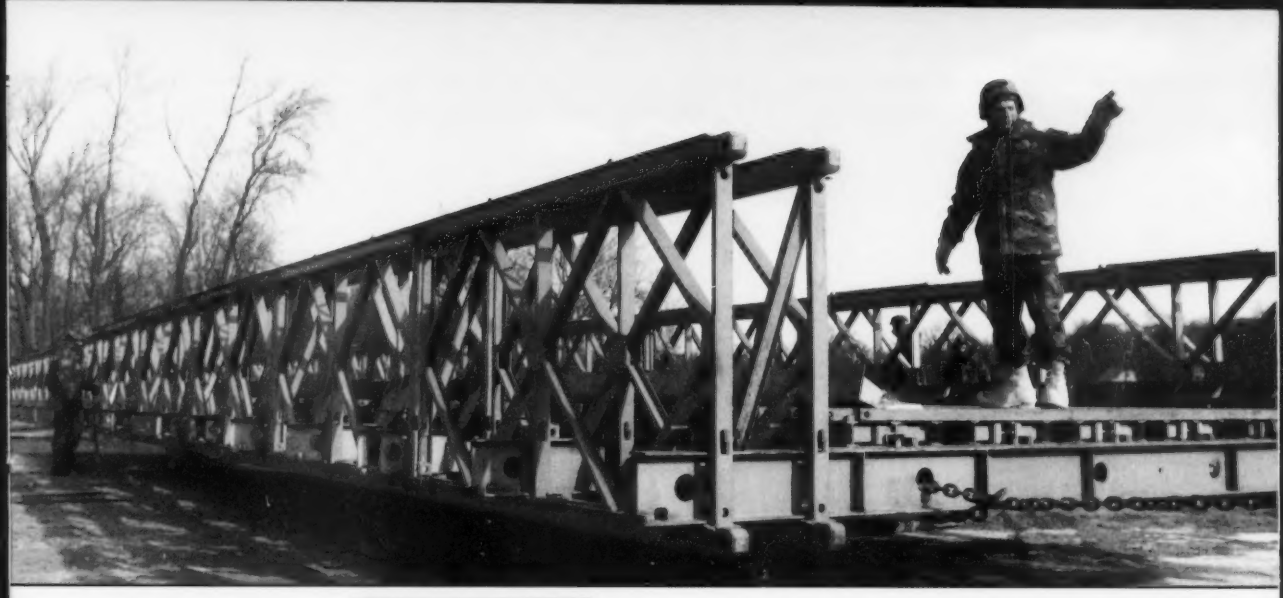
"The entire island of Puerto Rico, especially the metropolitan area of San Juan, depends on what these Reservists can achieve," said Brig. Gen. Jorge Arzola, commander of the 63rd Army Reserve Command. "With the ability to organize, operate, and control the Lake Carraizo project, the Army Reserve component in Puerto Rico is clearly an asset to the entire island."

A dozer operator *from Puerto Rico's 448th Engineer Battalion moves silt out of the dry lake bottom to waiting dump trucks.*

Although the present drought will end, the efforts of the 448th Engineer Battalion will be remembered for many years. When residents turn on the tap for a cool drink of water or a nice hot shower, the water supply will be plentiful. ★

Soldiers direct traffic *in the silt of Lake Carraizo. The lake is a major source of water for the city of San Juan.*

Over 50,000 cubic yards *of silt was removed from the dry lake bed of Lake Carraizo by engineers of the 448th Engineer Battalion.*



ENGINEER TRAINING

A Bailey Bridge for the Birds

The bridge aids conservation officials in rebuilding eroded wildlife habitat

By Maj. Mark Zimmer

The Red Wing Wildlife Preserve is home to a blue heron rookery, bald eagle nests and a variety of migratory waterfowl including, ducks, geese and an occasional loon, thanks in large measure to the 327th Engineer Company from Ellsworth, Wis.

When the weather turns cold, the 327th installs a bridge across Hay Creek, where it runs into the Mississippi River. The bridge is used to transport crushed rock over the stream to bolster the eroding nesting areas, and the Mission Essential Task List training helps the unit.

"We erected the bridge in January to help the Red Wing Wildlife League support the preserve's bird nesting habitat," said Capt. Catherine Harnack, company commander. "Now we're removing it before the water rises from the spring thaw."

Historically, the 90-foot bridge has been taken out in March but was removed in February this year because of a warmer than usual winter. The project, in its third year, takes place in the winter when the soil is frozen, thereby allowing heavy equipment to traverse the swampy, Mississippi backwater trails.

"The wave action and currents erode the banks around the refuge, especially in the spring when the water is the highest," said Ken Johnson, a volunteer with the Red Wing League. "We bring in limestone 'rip-rap' to reinforce the land threatened by erosion, and construct water control devices similar to dams to raise and lower the water."

Johnson said this project was one of a number of conservation programs his organization is involved in. "The Red Wing League runs an Environmental Learning Center and provides more than 2700 acres to cross-country ski, birdwatch, or kayak, and it caters especially to children. The bridge project has been a plus for us and great winter training for the Army Reserve," he added.

"Getting out in these rugged conditions is excellent practice," said Sgt. Andrew Musial, who in his civilian career is a locomotive engineer. Musial, the great nephew of baseball legend Stan Musial, maintained that these training activities directly relate to the 327th's military mission of bridge building and materials handling.

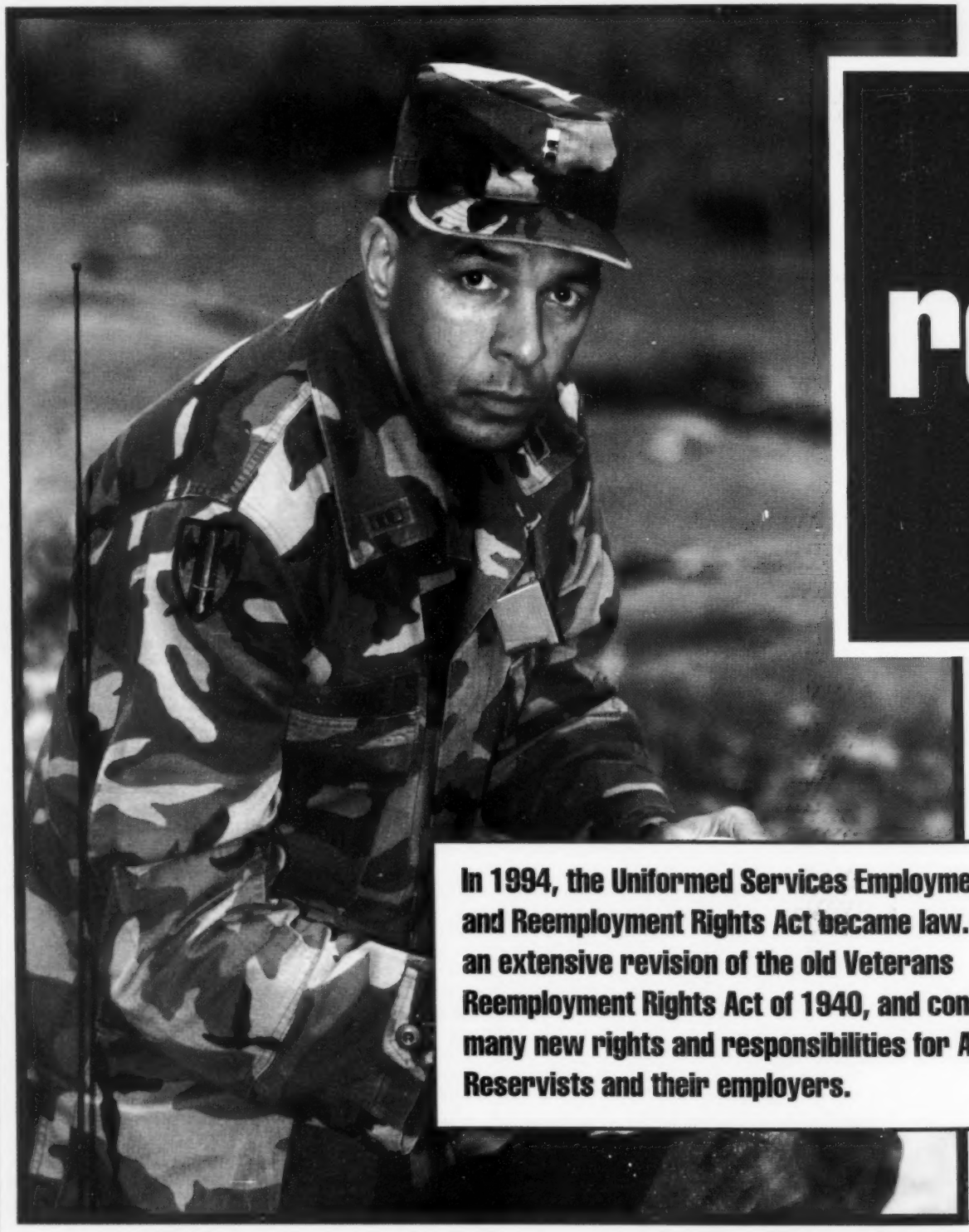
SFC Scott Matson guides the removal of the temporary bridge from the wildlife preserve on the Mississippi River.

"It's challenging because of weather conditions, but it's a good learning experience," explained Pvt. Torry Machteines, a Red Wing resident and college student. "You can really see the results. Our bridge makes this conservation project possible."

Approximately 45 Reservists participated in the exercise. To dismantle the bridge, they worked in groups of six- and eight-person teams to remove the 600-pound panels and 700-pound I-beams.

The Bailey Bridge used by the 327th is a through-truss bridge, manually assembled by connecting panels end to end. One 327th member described it as a "large erector set." The M2 Bailey Bridge was first fielded in World War II. ★

Sgt. Andrew Musial and Capt. Catherine Harnack discuss the logistics of removing a bridge from the Red Wing Wildlife Preserve. The unit's efforts help reclaim eroded bird nesting habitats in the preserve.



re

In 1994, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act became law. It is an extensive revision of the old Veterans Reemployment Rights Act of 1940, and contains many new rights and responsibilities for Army Reservists and their employers.

Lt.Col. Jim Nielsen

"What are my reemployment rights?"

1. What law governs reemployment rights after military training or service?

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, a comprehensive revision of the Veterans' Reemployment Rights law of 1940. USERRA is contained in Chapter 43,Title 38 United States Code.

2. Am I eligible for reemployment rights if I perform military service?

Yes, if you meet five eligibility criteria:

a. You must hold a civilian job. (Jobs that are held for a brief period and not expected to last indefinitely do not qualify for protection.)

b. You must give notice to your civilian employer that you will be leaving the job for military training or service.

c. You must not exceed the five-year cumulative limit on periods of service.

d. You must be released from service under "honorable conditions."

e. You must report back to your civilian job in a timely manner or submit a timely application for reemployment.

3. Do I have reemployment rights following voluntary military service?

USERRA applies to voluntary as well as involuntary military service, in peacetime as well as wartime.

4. When, and how much notice must I give my civilian employer?

You must give advance written or verbal notice to your employer, unless such notice is prohibited by DoD regulations or, if giving such notice is impossible or unreasonable.

The law does not say how much advance notice is required, but you should give your employer as much lead time as possible.

5. How is the five-year limit computed?

Your military service after Dec. 12, 1994 counts toward the cumulative five-year limit of service, however when you start a new job with a new employer, you receive a freshfive5-year entitlement. Duty performed prior to the effective date of USERRA is addressed in question #8.

The five-year limit does not apply if:

a. You are unable (through no fault of yours) to obtain orders releasing you from service in excess of five years to fulfill an initial period of obligated service. This is generally imposed on aviators or others who undergo extensive initial training in certain technical military specialties.

b. Your required drills, annual training and other training duty are certified by the military to be necessary for professional development or skill training/retraining.

c. Your service was performed during time of war or national emergency or for other critical missions, contingencies, or military requirements.

6. I am a Federal employee, and I receive 15 days of paid military leave each year. May I take time off from work beyond this 15 days?

As a Federal employee, you have the right to 15 days of paid military leave each fiscal year, under Title 5 U.S. Code. When you have exhausted your right to paid leave under Title 5, you still have the right to use your accrued civilian leave or take an unpaid leave of absence.

7. Can I be required to use my earned vacation while performing military service?

No. You may not be forced to use earned vacation. You are entitled to earned vacation or leave in addition to time off taken to perform military service. An exception would be a case where there is a standard plant shutdown at a certain time of year and all employees must take their vacations during that period and your period of military service happens to coincide with that period.

8. Now that USERRA has been enacted, can I serve an additional five years and still have reemployment rights?

Not necessarily. USERRA provides that military service performed prior to December 12,1994, will count toward the USERRA 5-year limit if it counted against the limits in the old law.

9. How long do I have to report back to work or apply for reemployment?

For periods of service of up to 30 consecutive days, you must report back to work for the first full regularly scheduled work period on the day following the completion of the period of service and safe transportation home, plus an 8-hour period for rest. If reporting back within this deadline is "impossible or unreasonable" through no fault of your own, you must report back as soon as possible after the end of the 8-hour period.

After a period of service of 31-180 days, you must submit an application for reemployment, either written or verbal, with the employer not later than 14 days after the completion of the period of service. If submitting the application within 14 days is impossible or unreasonable through no fault of your own, you must submit it as soon as possible thereafter.

After a period of service of 181 days or more, you must submit an application for reemployment not later than 90 days after completion of the period of service. These deadlines can be extended up to two years to accommodate a period during which you were hospitalized for or convalescing from a service-connected injury or illness.

10. What if I am late in reporting back to work and I don't have a valid excuse?

You do not automatically forfeit your right to reemployment, but you will be "subject to the conduct rules, established policy, and general practices of the employer pertaining to explanations and discipline with respect to absence from scheduled work."

11. Do I have the right to employee benefits during my military training?

Yes. USERRA gives you the right to elect continued health insurance coverage, for yourself and dependents, during periods of military service. For periods of up to 30 days of training or service, the employer can require you to pay only the employee share of the cost of such coverage.

For longer tours, the employer is permitted to charge you up to 102 percent of the entire premium. If you elect coverage, your right to that coverage ends on the day after the deadline for you to apply for reemployment or 18 months after your absence from your civilian job began, whichever comes first.

USERRA gives you and your previously covered dependents the right to immediate reinstatement of your civilian health insurance coverage upon return to your civilian job. There must be no waiting period and no exclusion of preexisting conditions (other than for those conditions determined to be service-connected). This right is not contingent on your having elected to continue that coverage during your service.

To the extent that your employer offers other non-seniority benefits (e.g., holiday pay or life insurance coverage) to employees on furlough or leave of absence, the employer is required to provide those same benefits to you, during your period of service in the uniformed services. If the employer's treatment of persons on leaves of absence varies according to the kind of leave (jury duty, educational, etc.), the comparison should be made with the employer's most generous form of leave. Of course, you must compare periods of comparable length.

12. To what am I entitled upon my application for reemployment?

You have four basic entitlements:

a. Prompt reinstatement (generally a matter of days, not weeks, but will depend on your length of absence).

b. Accrued seniority, as if you had been continuously employed. This applies to rights and benefits determined by seniority as well. This includes status, rate of pay, pension vesting, and credit for the period for pension benefit computations.

c. Training or retraining and other accommodations. This would be particularly applicable in case of a long period of absence or service-connected disability.

d. Special protection against discharge, except for cause. The period of this protection is 180 days following periods of service of 31-180 days. For periods of service of 181 days or more, it is one year.

13. When I return from military duty will I get my old job back?

USERRA provides that, if your period of service was less than 91 days, you are entitled to the job you would have attained if you hadn't left, provided that you are still, or can become, qualified for that job. If you are unable to become qualified for a new job after reasonable efforts by the employer, you are entitled to the job you left.

For periods of service of 91 days or more, the employer may reemploy you in the position you would have attained or position you left, or in a position of "like seniority, status and pay" to the duties of your old job.

14. What if I'm not qualified for my old job? What if I'm injured or disabled?

If you have been gone from your civilian job for months or years, your civilian job skills may have been dulled by a long period without use. You must be qualified to do the job in order to have reemployment rights, but the law requires the employer to make "reasonable efforts" to qualify you.

"Reasonable efforts" means actions, including training, that don't cause undue hardship to the employer. If you can't become qualified after reasonable efforts by your employer and you are not disabled, you must be employed in another position of lesser status and pay, the duties of which you are qualified to perform, with full seniority.

USERRA also requires the employer to make "reasonable efforts" to accommodate a service-connected disability. If upon your return from military service you are suffering from a service-connected disability

that cannot be accommodated by reasonable employer efforts, the employer is to reemploy you in some other position that you are qualified to perform and which is the "nearest approximation" of the position to which you are otherwise entitled, in terms of seniority, status, and pay.

A disability need not be permanent in order to confer rights under USERRA. For example, if you break your leg during your annual training, your employer may have an obligation to reasonably accommodate your broken leg, or to place you in another position, until your leg has healed.

15. Does the new law protect me from discrimination by my employer or a prospective employer?

Yes. Section 4311(a) of USERRA provides the following:

"A person who is a member of, applies to be a member of, performs, has performed, applies to perform, or has an obligation to perform service in the uniformed services shall not be denied initial employment, reemployment, retention in employment, promotion, or any benefit of employment by an employer on the basis of that membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service, or obligation."

Section 4311(c)(l) further provides:

"An employer may not discriminate in employment against or take any adverse employment action against any person because such person has taken an action to enforce a protection afforded any person under this chapter, has testified or otherwise made a statement in or in connection with any proceeding under this chapter, has assisted or otherwise participated in an investigation under this chapter, or has exercised a right provided for in this chapter."

These two provisions provide a very broad protection against discrimination, much broader than the VRR law provided. The second provision prohibits, for the first time, reprisals against any person, without regard to military connection, who testifies or otherwise assists in an investigation or other proceeding under USERRA.

16. Who has the burden of proof in these cases?

The employer or prospective employer. USERRA provides that a denial of employment or adverse action taken by an employer will be unlawful if your service connection was a motivating factor (not necessarily the only factor) in the denial or adverse action "unless the employer can prove that the action would have been taken in the absence of such membership, application for membership . . . or obligation."

17. Where do I go for information or help?

Army Reservists with questions or concerns about their civilian job rights should first consult with their command.

For more assistance and information, Army Reservists and their employers may contact the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (NCESGR), toll-free at (800) 336-4590. NCESGR ombudsmen are trained to provide information and informal mediation services concerning civilian job rights of Army Reservists.

If you believe your employer has violated your rights under USERRA and you wish to file a formal complaint, contact the Veterans' Employment and Training Service of the United States Department of Labor.

You can call (800) 442-2838 to obtain the address and telephone number of the VETS office closest to you. VETS is required by USERRA to investigate all complaints. Under the new law, VETS will perform investigations for federal employees claiming reemployment rights, as well as employees of state and local governments and the private sector.

LOGISTICS

Bad reporting hurts readiness

The accuracy of a supply sergeant's reports impacts on Congressional funding

By Maj. Christina Anderson

Every day supply sergeants receive, store and process equipment, and report their receipts to the installation. And no matter how conscientiously a supply sergeant sends in receipt documentation, the annual reconciliation usually shows some difference between what the unit says it has and what the installation has recorded.

Frustrations for soldiers using the manual property book system can sometimes lead to the attitude of "Why send it in? I'll do it at reconciliation and save myself a lot of trouble."

What is usually not seen at unit level is the impact bad information has at the highest levels of command – from Department of the Army through the Assistant Secretary of the Army, all the way up to Congressional committees. This affects appropriations, funding for equipment and systems, so soldiers can do their jobs.

The Continuing Balance System Expanded (CBS-X) input is rolled into a system known as REQVAL, or Requisition Validation, a subset of the Distribution Execution System (DES) which is used by logisticians worldwide to identify both requirements and equipment-on-hand status for all components.

REQVAL data is used in part to determine how equipment is distributed to units; a handy tool that helps get available equipment moving toward the soldier.

If a soldier experiences a delay in requisition processing while the system checks for a valid need, part of that check involves data collected through the DES, maintained by the Logistics Support Activity. There is no easy way to check whether the data is completely up-to-date outside the reconciliation process so it is taken at face value, often to the detriment of the individual unit. If a soldier doesn't report a shortage, the unit gets shortchanged.

Most Army Reserve units still use the manual, 'stubby-pencil' property book system, which by its nature has a lower rate of accuracy than automated systems. This lower accuracy causes serious problems for the Army Reserve. To improve accuracy, supply sergeants should send a transmittal document with their receipts to create a record that may reveal problems at the installation. If it doesn't show up on the reconciliation, you'll know it didn't get lost in the mail. Unfortunately, installations don't always send the documents on to the Logistics Support Activity in a timely manner, and if such a problem reoccurs, you can let your command know through your Command Logistics Review Team or inspector general.

Lastly, when you receive access to the Standard Property Book System-Revised, use it! The automated system will make everybody's life easier and reporting more accurate.

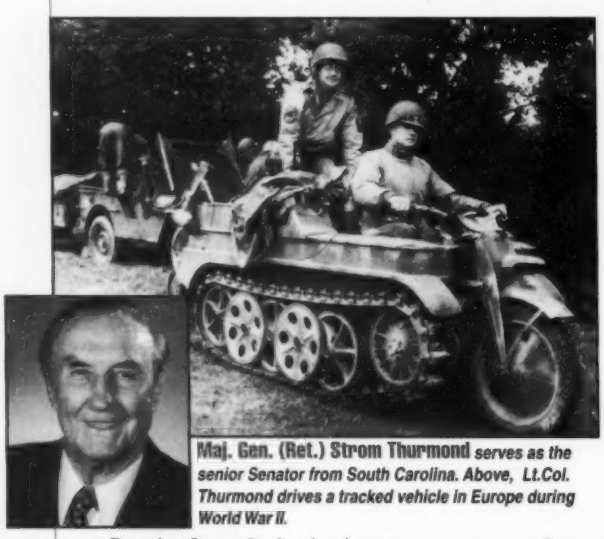
No systems are perfect, but once we recognize their shortcomings, we can then figure out how to make them work better for all of us. ★

World War II Remembered

War memories of Strom Thurmond

Strom Thurmond retired as a Major General in the U.S. Army Reserve in 1964, and serves as a United States Senator from South Carolina. This interview was conducted by Capt. Amelia G. Johnson and the unedited version originally appeared in the Civil Affairs Association's newsletter.

"I was assigned to headquarters, First Army, in the G-2 section at Governors Island, N.Y., and was happy to hear we were being sent overseas," recalled U.S. Senator Strom Thurmond. "A civil affairs section was being set up in England, and I was going to be the executive officer."



Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Strom Thurmond *serves as the senior Senator from South Carolina. Above, Lt.Col. Thurmond drives a tracked vehicle in Europe during World War II.*

But when I came back to headquarters, I heard that the 82nd Airborne Division was calling for three volunteers to go with them on D-Day. I volunteered."

"We went by glider," he said, taking a deep breath, "but I wanted to jump! As a target, the glider is the worst thing in the world to be in, and it was much safer to jump. But without any training they said I'd better not risk it. You take orders, so we went by glider with the 325th Glider Infantry, and we survived."

"A Civil Affairs officer goes right along with the combat officers, and as quickly as a town is taken, teams are dropped off to control the town.

"We were being pulled by a plane, and were supposed to cut loose when it was safe, but the fog got heavy and we went a little further when we were cut, so down we came. We landed near St. Mére Église. The glider I was in had a doctor in it as well as a jeep.

"We landed between two rows in an apple orchard, so we didn't get killed in landing. When we finally stopped and got out, I was bleeding on my right forehead, my right arm, and right knee."

"The mission of the 82nd Airborne was to cut off reserves that land between enemy lines, and instead of doing Civil Affairs work, we soon became infantry officers," Thurmond chuckled, shaking his head in disbelief.

"The 82nd met up with the 8th Infantry, 4th Division and cleared out that section of France. We then went up to Cherbourg and cleared that out. Then we reassembled. At the port, some German snipers were shooting at us, and one killed one of our men not far from me. When the sniper was caught, another American soldier was about to shoot this German and I grabbed his arm to stop him, telling him 'they're performing their duty like we're performing ours.'

"We then headed towards St. Lo...it sure was hell...then continued on to Paris. In Civil Affairs we're the 'people people,' the city managers, judges, lawyers, public works folks. Each team was set up based on a town's needs and Paris needed a big team. As the executive officer, I decided which team went where."

"The Battle of the Bulge pushed us back to Liege, Belgium. We crossed over Remagan Bridge, which was destroyed to keep us from crossing into Germany, so we crossed on a pontoon. There, I visited Buchenwald," he said.

"I've never seen anything like that in my life," said Thurmond. "People were being starved to death so no one could say they were being killed. The doctors had a hard time telling who was dead or alive. They were set like cord wood, 12 feet high. Some of those people were still alive and needed immediate treatment. To this day, I wonder how man could be so brutal towards a fellow man.

"First Army was the first through Europe and the first to meet up with the Russians. We could have taken Berlin, and should have, but either President Roosevelt or the commanding general wanted the Russians to take it. Our soldiers wanted to take Berlin and were awfully upset they couldn't."

First Army then waited patiently for its next order, which, according to the Senator took them to the Pacific theater. There, he served with the G-5, where he was "amazed that the Japanese had nothing. Their clothes were ragged, they had no shoes. The soles of their feet looked like shoes from jumping on briars and rocks.

"We soon returned to Fort Bragg, where I got word that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court needed me back on the bench, so I was released in October 1945. Looking back, I know that my civilian skills as a judge and a lawyer helped me a great deal during the war, and especially in Civil Affairs."

Sen. Strom Thurmond remained in the U.S. Army Reserve after the war and retired as a Major General in 1964. ★

Editor's Note:
Brig. Gen. Strom Thurmond authored the article "Civil Affairs in Atomic Age Warfare" published in the May 1958 issue of *Army Reserve*.

IMAs break a 'log' jam

Individual Mobilization Augmentee soldiers support the Army's logisticians at the highest levels.

By Maj. Kathy Perry

"Hey Coach, we're running out of players. The pressure is really on. What are we going to do?"

Follow the lead of Army's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics and fill the team with Individual Mobilization Augmentees.

As the operational tempo increased during the planning phases of operations Uphold Democracy (Haiti) and Vigilant Warrior (Southwest Asia), the logistics office was unable to keep up with requirements without augmenting their staff. The Army's Logistics Operations Center in the Pentagon was a team running out of players. With the two operations running simultaneously, their high visibility and complexity forced the center to operate 24 hours a day. More team players were needed.

The Army's chief of logistics requested the mobilization of eight IMAs under Presidential Selective Reserve Call-up authority. The PSRC request was approved for six in late October 1994, and the soldiers were assigned to the Logistics Operations and Strategic Mobility Divisions. The IMA soldiers responded in the same manner as Troop Program Unit soldiers respond to the Army mission surge.

At the peak of Operations Uphold Democracy and Vigilant Warrior, more than 16,000 soldiers were deployed in 105 countries. The Logistics Operations Center operated around the clock to help satisfy logistical requirements around the world, becoming the focal point for information on logistical readiness. The center staff coordinated the right support in the right quantities to be delivered at the right time, in a frenzy of beehive activity. There was, however, a system and structure to the intense activity.

The IMAs coordinated and integrated current Army logistics operations with the Army Staff, Joint Staff, Major Army Commands and other federal agencies. The soldiers collected and collated real-time operational information, analyzed and organized data, and disseminated the information.

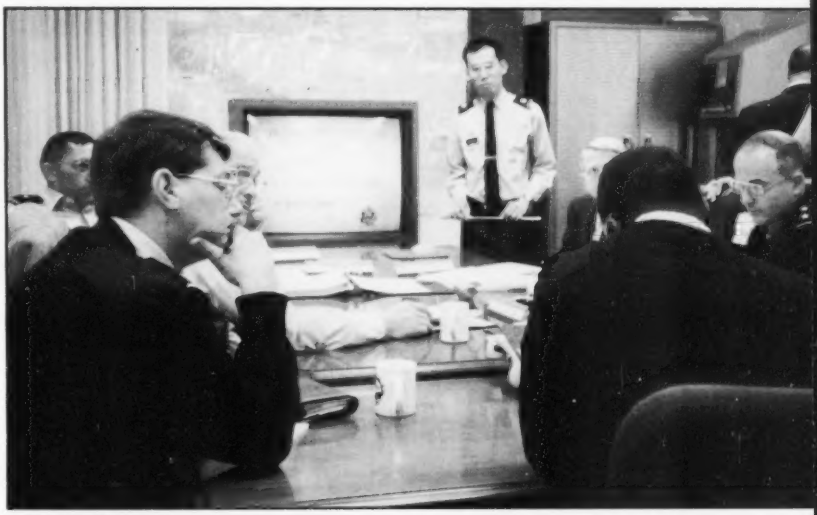
The IMAs also prepared and maintained operational maps and charts, managed a diverse array of DCSLOG taskings, and retrieved, reviewed and disseminated messages from the Army Message Handling System.

During their six-month tour, the soldiers were also involved in Operations Safe Haven in Panama, Sea Signal in Guantanamo, United Shield in Somalia, and Provide Promise in Bosnia.

The IMAs were thoroughly integrated into the organization and were expected to aggressively assume integral responsibilities, which meant unconditionally surrendering their time, working under stressful conditions with constant scrutiny, and participating in high-level discussions with the Army's leadership.

The DCSLOG's concept of using IMAs as part of its team is an example of the Army's IMA program, where trained and ready soldiers are prepared to do whatever it takes to be part of the Army team.

"The IMAs played, and continue to play, an absolutely essential role in the logistical readiness of America's Army," said Wilson. "Our six IMAs worked in the Logistics Operation Cell during a period of intense pressure as heightened tensions in Somalia, Korea, Rwanda, Bosnia, Haiti, and Southwest Asia unfolded. We simply could not have handled the diverse and fast-paced logistical requirements of those contingencies without the professional abilities and dedicated work of the IMAs." ★



AN IMA SOLDIER *briefs Lt.Gen. Johnnie Wilson, the Army's chief logistician, during the height of logistical activity revolving around Operations Uphold Democracy and Vigilant Warrior.*

An important part of the job was conducting comprehensive briefings for Lt.Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, the Army's chief logistician, and other senior logisticians. The IMA soldiers became experts in anticipating what information would be required and what questions would be asked. Decisions that critically impacted the Army's ability to protect and sustain logistical support were made by Wilson, based on the information provided during these daily briefings.

Soldiers from the 391st Engineer Battalion build a miniature golf pathway for children with special needs at Camp Spearhead, S.C.

Building a dream

Training to mission-essential tasks improves readiness and brings joy to the lives of children.

By MSgt. Robert C. Hairston

Just off Highway 276, nestled in the foothills of Greenville County, S.C., dreams are being built. In this secluded area of upstate South Carolina, a transformation is taking place that will have a life long impact on those who come here.

Within the 178 acres which make up "Camp Spearhead," activity is abuzz. Near the camp's main buildings, four people hammer enthusiastically to complete a framework for a shuffleboard court. To their left, bulldozers and front-end loaders send gray plumes of diesel smoke skyward as they crisscross the area, hauling gravel and clearing trees. Still others rake and pound red bricks into place to form walkways for an 18-hole miniature golf course.

Camp Director Chuck Luttrell is obviously impressed. He strolls through the different areas of the project, huddled inside his yellow rain slicker, hands tucked inside his blue jeans pockets.

Perhaps he's even more impressed with those doing the work. It's not everyday you see soldiers training to mission-essential tasks that bring joy to someone's life.

During the summer, over 700 handicapped children and adults will come to Camp Spearhead. Today, 40 children and adults are here. This is their haven. This is a place where their spirits soar and their bodies reach out beyond their physical limitations. As they come up to you, they shake your hand; they tell you their name. They touch your shoulder or maybe your arm. But even more, they touch your heart. Excitement flashes on their faces as they watch the soldiers of the 391st Engineer Battalion go about their work of upgrading their camp's facilities.

As the children come up to you, they shake your hand; they tell you their name. They touch your shoulder or maybe your arm. But even more, they touch your heart.

The giving doesn't stop there, however. The soldiers feel the "campers" give them satisfaction knowing what they're doing here will be greatly appreciated.

"We began the construction project last April," construction supervisor SFC Clyde Davis said. "Since that time, we've poured concrete for a 40 foot by 70 foot basketball court; poured concrete for sidewalks for an 18-hole miniature golf course and built a 24 foot by 60 foot shed. I've enjoyed this project more than others we've been involved with because you can see it helps kids with special needs."

At Camp Spearhead, they're building a road to improve access to a lake located on top of a hill. "A bunch of the camp's acreage had been inaccessible," said 1st Lt. Brian Keith. "We're trying to cut a road around the other side of the lake."

Camp Spearhead operates as a nonprofit organization administered through the Greenville County Disability and Special Needs Board. It is co-sponsored by the Greenville Recreation District.

To qualify for assistance as a training mission for the Army Reserve, the camp had to be nonprofit, not discriminate, and be willing to provide all materials, fuel and meals. The camp also had to obtain the licenses and permits for the project.

In turn, the 391st provides the heavy equipment and the licensed operators. The reservists work during their drill weekend and when funding is available for work during "off drill" weekends.

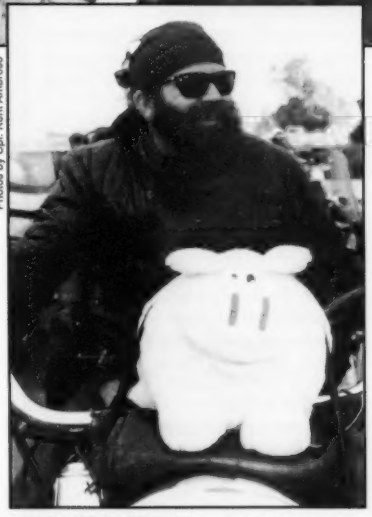
The week-long camp is held in six sessions during the summer. If the campers can pay, they pay based on guidelines outlined by the federal government.

During the school year the camp operates with 50 to 100 volunteers. During the summer, 45 paid staff members help operate the facility.

"I really want to let people know how much the Reservists have done," said Luttrell. "They've done things we wouldn't have been able to do. We couldn't have completed this project without them."

Weather permitting, the project is slated to be completed midsummer. ★

Biker Santas



Photos by Cpl. Kent Ambrose

AWWW. AIN'T HE CUTE? ***A hog rides a hog. Above, Army Reservists sort the toys delivered by Arizona bike club members.***

Soldiers and bikers support the 20th annual Kicks for Kids toy run

By Sgt. Ted Bartimus

Soldiers and bikers looked a lot like Santa Claus as they teamed up in Phoenix to plant toys under the trees of needy kids.

For the 20th consecutive year, men and women in camouflage uniforms and leather biker chaps made their journey of joy— the annual Kick for Kids toy run.

More than 950 motorcycles brought 3,600 toys to the Barnes Army Reserve Center on Dec. 3, where Army Reservists wrapped and delivered them to a number of community groups and organizations in time for Christmas.

"I'm tickled to death. I rode out from Cottonwood, Ariz., to do this and look forward to it every year," said Lowell Pierce, who started the event 20 years ago.

"It's a good thing when you can support something like this," said Spc. Michael Hilstrom, 484th Transportation Battalion.

The toys were donated by the Phoenix-area motorcycle clubs and by individual Army Reservists.

Army Reserve units from the 63rd Army Reserve Command in Phoenix also posted road guards during the ride. The units included the 164th Support Group, 484th Transportation Battalion, 289th Transportation Detachment, 406th Military Intelligence Company, 1st Military Intelligence Center and the 359th Combat Support Hospital.

The motorcycles were a spectacle at the Reserve Center, and with the help of reservists, the ride covered more than 15 miles through city traffic with no difficulties. ★

And the winners are!

The Army Awards for Maintenance Excellence winners for 1994 are:

MTOE LIGHT CATEGORY:

Winner: HHC, 412th Engineer Command, Vicksburg, Mississippi
Runner-up: 322nd Civil Affairs Brigade, Fort DeRussy, Hawaii

MTOE INTERMEDIATE CATEGORY:

Winner: 804th Signal Company, Fort DeRussy, Hawaii
Runner-up: 619th Transportation Company, Auburn, Maine

MTOE HEAVY CATEGORY:

Winner: 813th Engineer Battalion, Fort Richardson, Alaska
Runner-up: 824th Quartermaster Co. (Air Delivery), Fort Bragg, N.C.

WANTED

Looking for a home? Maybe one of these units has a slot for you.

424th Transportation Co., Ft Pickett, Va.
760th Engineer Co., Ft. Pickett, Va.
301st Signal Co., Ft. Pickett, Va.
HHC, 87th Div. (Exercise), Birmingham, Ala.
1st Brigade (Birmingham, Ala.)
2nd Brigade (Louisville, Ky.)
3rd Brigade (Camp Shelby, Miss.)
4th Brigade (Augusta, Ga. and Orlando, Fla.)
6th Brigade (Ft. Buchanan, Puerto Rico

SFC Al Gedelian (703) 236-6132
Danny Blevins (703) 783-6122
1SG M. McFarland (804) 279-4259
MSG Poney or SFC Hand (205) 987-3985

Heavenly Hawaiian Holidays

Army Reservists planning to visit Hawaii will have an easier time getting reservations at the Hale Koa Hotel, the military's favorite resort.

In September, the beachfront armed forces recreation center will begin to house guests in its new Maile Tower, doubling the number of rooms from 400 to 800. The hotel, a first-class resort for the exclusive use of military personnel and their families, is located on Waikiki Beach at Fort DeRussy.

Guest room rates vary depending on pay grade, duty status, floor height and ocean view. For information and reservations call (800) 367-6027.

CATEGORY (for active, reserve & retired)	PVT - SGT	SSG - CW3 LT - CPT	CW4 -CW5 MAJ - GEN
Standard Room	$47.00	$60.00	$75.00
Superior	$56.00	$67.00	$87.00
Garden View	$62.00	$80.00	$99.00
Ocean View	$70.00	$87.00	$106.00
Ocean Front	$82.00	$98.00	$114.00

IN REVIEW

On the Tiger's Back by Bernard E. Grady. Biddle,1995. 239p. $12.95 (207) 833-5016. A first person account of the Vietnam War that tells not just of the heroes in battle, but of the civilians whose homes became battlefields.

Witness to War: Korea by Rod Paschall. Berkley, 1995. 212p. $12.00 (212) 951-8923. An oral history of the Korean War, featuring original source documents and narratives, some never before published.

War As I Knew It by Gen. George S. Patton, Jr. Houghton Mifflin, 1995. 421p. $15.95 (212) 420-5849. Rediscover World War II through the eyes of Patton, in this classic 1947 reprint, with an introduction by Rick Atkinson.

Sharpe's Battle by Bernard Cornwell. Harper Collins, 1995. 304p. $20.00 (212) 207-7788. An historical novel based on the adventures of a British Army captain during the Napoleonic Wars.

Balkan Tragedy by Susan L. Woodward. Brookings, 1995. 521p. $42.95 (800) 275-1447. A book on the Yugoslav wars that disputes the prevalent view on Bosnia and takes a much more pro-Serbian stance.

Company C: The Real War in Iraq by John Sack. William Morrow, 1995. 241p. $23.00 (212) 261-6574. Following a tank company from America to Iraq, the author finds the war fought with the blood and sweat of soldiers, not machines.

Aviation by Donald S. Lopez. Macmillan, 1995. 256p. $24.95 (212) 373-8234. A colorful Smithsonian guide and overview of landmark events in aviation, from balloonists and barnstormers to jet pilots.

Spaceflight by Valerie Neal. Macmillan, 1995. 256p. $24.95. A Smithsonian guide to the history of spaceflight from the earliest designs to the 21st Century.

Never Fight Fair! by Orr Kelly. Presidio Press, 1995. 336p. $22.95. An oral history of Navy SEAL's stories of combat and adventure.

General Lee by Walter H. Taylor. Nebraska Press, 1995. 314p. $12.95pb. First published in 1906, this famous account presents a strong case for the greatness of the Army of N.Virginia.

Citizen Soldier by Robert J. Berens. Sigler Publishing, 1995. 133p. (515) 232-6997. The biography of Brig. Gen. Edward Bird, an Iowa National Guardsman who commanded infantry battalions in World War II.

Summons of the Trumpet by Dave R. Palmer. Presidio Press, 1995. 275p. $12.95pb. The history of the American involvement in Vietnam from its beginnings with a handful of soldiers through the end of the war in 1973.

Hell on Wheels by Donald E. Houston. Presidio Press, 1995. 466p. $14.95pb. The detailed story of the Second Armored Division in World War II.

People

Why flip a private instead of a tank?

It's cheaper. With an unidentified private as a training aid, **SSgt. Stanley Anderson** and **SFC Louis Imbrogno** demonstrate the correct method of retrieving a flipped tank by flipping the private.

The soldiers were part of a group of 42 Reservists from the 100th Division (Training) taking part in Project Sword, an augmentation of active Army armor instructors at Fort Knox, Ky. The Reservists, on active duty for one year, will be instructors for the tank commander certification course; armor basic course and will instruct new recruits in the basics of becoming a tanker during Army One Station Unit Training.

Flipping a private is much easier than flipping a tank.

Building a school roof with Bark

At the edge of a mountain range in Guatemala, the village of Llano Grande is getting a new school building thanks in large part to **SSgt. Todd A. Bark** and his roofing construction team from the 389th Engineer Battalion of Middletown, Iowa. Bark is a civilian warehouse conveyor mechanic.

The training exercise permits the unit to practice making an overseas deployment, do a variety of construction work while training, and cope with a worksite at the far end of the supply chain. The project is part of "Fuertes Caminos," a joint U.S. and Guatemalan construction exercise. Bark and his team flew to Guatemala City, rode in trucks for two hours through rugged mountains to a remote base camp, and from there, travelled daily to Llano Grande to construct the village school.

Bark installs rafters and purlins on a Guatemalan school building.

Looking for a job? Check the embassy.

What do you do when you're 6,000 miles from home and the nearest Reserve unit is 400 miles away, in another country? Run to the American Embassy?

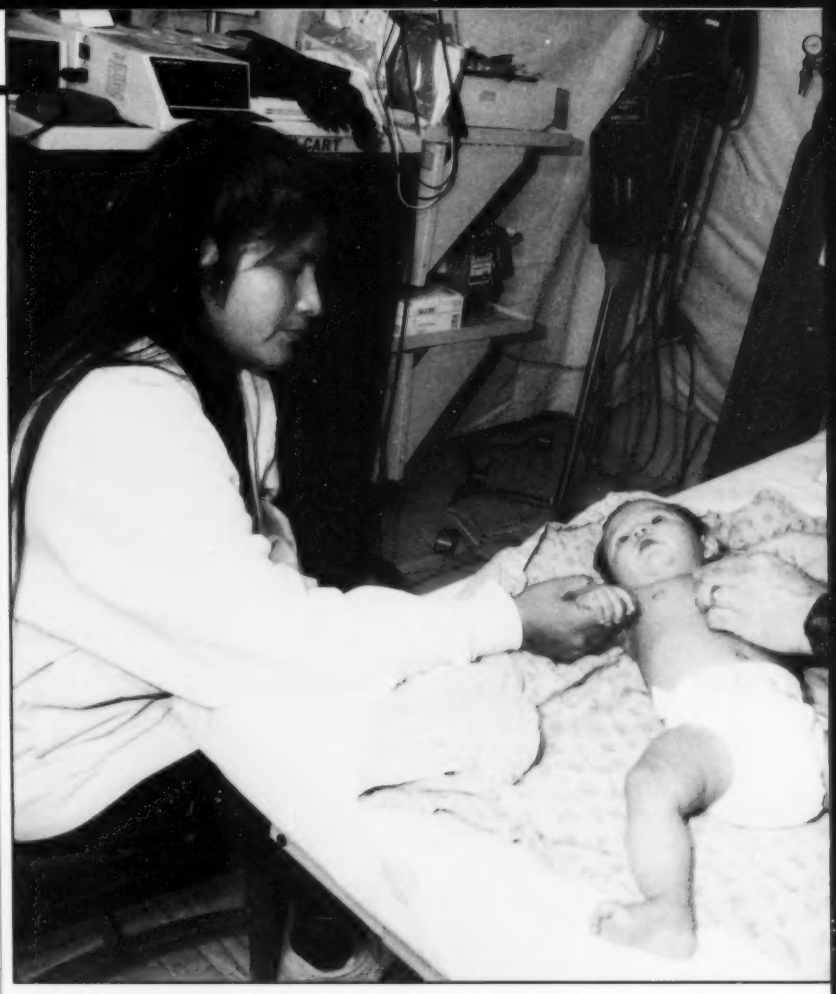
ROTC **Cadet Kelly Mason**, of the 94th ARCOM did just that while studying international business at the Warsaw School of Economics in Poland. The embassy pointed Mason in the direction of the Polish Ministry of Defense where she found a small group of American service members working mil-to-mil issues between the Polish and American militaries. The Military Liaison Team was happy to have her as a member, and she now works to help coordinate the Polish effort to institute an American-style Army Reserve system in their army.

ROTC Cadet Kelly Mason works with her Polish Army counterpart.

Medics open desert oasis

Called in for a temporary mission, an Army Reserve DEPMEDS provides the Navajo nation with quality medical care

By Jennifer Wasmer



In Arizona's arid high desert, a U. S. Army Reserve deployable medical system, or DEPMEDS, is offering a medical oasis for thousands of Native Americans from the nearby Navajo reservation. At this Arizona site, Army Reservists from Tampa are completing their annual training mission in an authentic medical environment. Each week hundreds of people are treated in this DEPMEDS facility.

The DEPMEDS, the Army's state-of-the-art, primary care facility for the field, was set up last September as a temporary replacement for the main public health services building currently under renovation. DEPMEDS is made from specially designed tenting material and provides a safe, climate-controlled environment for consistent, quality care under extreme circumstances. Serving in two-week rotations, Army Reservists will continue to help out until work on the permanent facility is completed next summer. They are also helping out at clinics in more remote areas on the Navajo reservation.

PFC Valorie Hayden examines a lab sample with a microscope.

Recently Maj. Frank Amato, a medical surgical nurse with the Army Reserve's 349th Combat Support Hospital from St. Petersburg, traveled to Winslow to assess patient ailments in the DEPMEDS. "The Winslow mission is giving our unit the opportunities to work with patients who need our care and to see how the DEPMEDS really functions," commented Amato, a resident of Tampa. "Also, it is really rewarding to give high quality medical care to people who need and deserve it."

"Learning about the Navajo culture has been interesting, but it's also important," added Amato. "Army Reserve missions like this allow us to work in new environments and different cultures so we gain broader experience. I think that helps us prepare to serve in any military situation." In his civilian occupation Amato is a registered nurse who works as a nurse manager in a drug and alcohol rehabilitation unit in the Veteran's Administrative Hospital in Tampa.

PFC Valorie Hayden, a medical lab technician with the 349th commented, "The experience helps prepare me for real-life military situations working with real people with real problems." Hayden travelled to Winslow to draw blood and urine samples and run lab tests.

"If our unit was activated, we'd run a medical clinic just like this one," said Spc. Bennie Watson, a medic. "I am in the Army

Maj. Frank Amato of the 349th Combat Support Hospital, St. Petersburg, Fla. examines an infant while the baby's mother looks on.

Reserve to do just that, to help people."

Army Reservists here have been providing primary health care such as performing diagnostic services, checking blood pressure, changing wound dressings, performing basic lab work and treating viral infections.

Many patients travel more than an hour through the Navajo reservation to the Winslow medical facility. The services provided include pediatric and obstetric care as well as care for chronic conditions such as diabetes. During a recent unit rotation, some four-legged patients even received treatment when Army Reservists administered rabies shots to dogs and cats on the reservation.

"This mission is a win-win situation," said Maj. Gen. Max Baratz, Chief, Army Reserve. "We're able to help our fellow Americans while getting the training we need to maintain our combat readiness." ★

Surfing in Cyberspace

Drawing "open-source information" from the Internet expands the Army's intelligence capabilities.

By Sgt. Eliot A. Jardines

Soldiers of the 434th Military Intelligence Detachment (Strategic) travel far more than most Reservists. During a drill weekend they can be found trekking throughout the world, from the halls of Oxford, England, to the war-torn Baltics.

What makes the 434th unique is that unit members travel to these far off lands from the computer workstations at their headquarters in New Haven, Conn. The 434th performs a critical mission to explore cyberspace, or the information superhighway, and to provide the Army with a better understanding of how "open source information" can improve intelligence capabilities.

Traditionally when people think of Military Intelligence they envision shadowy MI soldiers pouring over Top Secret documents in dimly lit rooms. One imagines perilous adventures and foreign intrigue. While there is certainly a place for all that in MI, the 434th's working environment and mission are quite different. The brightly lit headquarters is alive with the hum of computers and modems dialing hundreds of unclassified databases, library systems and electronic bulletin boards around the world.

This "open-source information" is then compiled, analyzed and converted into useful intelligence for the active component. The free and rapid flow of information through the Internet and other electronic communication systems is a technology the Army hopes to exploit. The 434th's expertise has contributed materially to the Army's ability to produce it.

Understanding the implications of the dawning of the "information age," the 434th focuses its efforts on developing and demonstrating the usefulness of open source information. For instance, the relative lack of classified intelligence resources available on Somalia prior to our deployment, hampered our troops on the ground.

Open source information gives the Army the ability to develop a database on the target area by "surfing the information superhighway" for data. Personal computers are then used for information storage and retrieval to provide time-sensitive intelligence analysis to the troops prior to their deployment. Intelligence is produced and disseminated very quickly, thereby enhancing traditional intelligence methods of collection and analysis.

Because of its success in cyberspace, the 434th recently won the prestigious "Golden Candle Award" at the Third International Symposium on National Security and National Competitiveness, for developing a handbook titled, "Open Source Intelligence Resources for the Military Intelligence Officer." Produced under the supervision of CWO4 Alan Tompkins, the handbook tells MI personnel how to use personal computers and modems to access open and unclassified data through the "information super-highway."

SFC John Massari accesses the Internet through a portable open-source workstation.

"Open source information is vital," says Col. Robert R. Simmons, unit commander, "because it reduces the costs of strategic intelligence significantly, while at the same time ensuring our forces have accurate and timely intelligence support." Considering the future role of the Army in coalition-based operations and the increased need for quick and accurate intelligence, "surfing in cyberspace" is here to stay. ★

MAILCALL

Can I resign my commission?

I AM GETTING CLOSE TO MY Mandatory Removal Date (MRD), however I feel I still have a lot to offer the Army Reserve. Since I will be well short of my 60th birthday when my MRD occurs, I have been giving serious thoughts to reverting to the enlisted ranks for those remaining years.

Can I resign my commission and revert to an enlisted rank? I was a Sergeant (E-5) prior to commissioning. If yes, what will happen to my retirement? Will I retire at my highest officer rank or at the highest rank I end up holding as an enlisted? What is the procedure to follow to accomplish this task?

Lt.Col. Donnelly Whitehead
Watervliet, N.Y.

First, contact your Personnel Management Officer at ARPERCEN for the specifics, but yes, according to AR 135-175 paragraphs 5-1 and 5-2 you can resign your commission and revert to an enlisted rank. When you enlist, your commission will be automatically vacated the day before you enlist.

The determination of retired rank rests with the Retired Activities Directorate at ARPERCEN and is covered by AR 135-180, paragraph 2-11c. You will retire in the highest grade held "while on active duty or in an active reserve status for at least 185 days or 6 calendar months."

First, see your local area recruiter. He or she can cover the enlistment requirements and procedures, and determine if there is a unit vacancy within your geographical area and do a grade determination. Administrative action is not required to vacate your commission, as it is automatic on the date preceding your enlistment. However you will receive a letter of notification of vacation of appointment.

Transportation IMAs.

I'm interested in finding out more about the Transportation Corps Individual Mobilization Augmentee positions available. Which agency should I contact? If you could publish a list of points-of-contact for each branch, I'm certain it would be of great interest to your readers. Many thanks!

Sgt. Tim Moriarty
Vienna, Va.

Contact your Personnel Management NCO at the Army Reserve Personnel Center in St. Louis. Their toll-free numbers are as follows: Admin (800) 325-4752; Aviation/Transportation (800) 325-4712; Communications/Electronics (800) 325-4714; Engineer (800) 325-4095; Field Artillery/Air Defense (800) 4730; Health Services (800) 325-4710; Infantry (800) 325-4743; Logistics (800) 325-4713; Military Police/Military Intelligence (800) 325-4715; Ordnance (800) 325-4072; Special Forces (800) 233-5242.

I'm always frightened when I publish a phone number—they're usually changed moments afterward. If you get a wrong number, try one of the others and they'll transfer you.

Wear those seatbelts!

THE ARTICLE "ON THE ROAD AGAIN" [Spring 1995], contains the statement that "...the 915s don't have a seat belt. If they did, the drivers would end up with bruises on their hips."

Having had first hand experience with 915 accident investigations, I can assure you that bruised hips are far better than being thrown from the vehicle. The risks taken by not wearing the seat belts do not outweigh the potential costs of being thrown from the vehicle after an accident.

Even after putting seat belts in military vehicles, the major issue for the chain of command remains getting the drivers and passengers to use them. During a study I conducted after the Desert Storm ground war, I interviewed over 300 randomly selected crews and drivers to determine why they were not wearing their seat belts. The ease in which I could find 300 wheeled vehicle crews not wearing seat belts illustrated the magnitude of the problem. By printing a "justification" for not having to wear seat belts (bruised hips), you have just made the task of getting soldiers to use seat belts in military vehicles much harder to achieve.

Maj. (Ret.) Glenn Camp
Daleville, Ala.

Bruised hips, no. Sore butt, yes.

AS A 16-YEAR MEMBER OF THE Army Reserve, I have driven all three types of line haul tractor. They've all had seatbelts and I've worn them. The tractors are a little rough riding while bobtailing, but I have yet to get bruised hips from wearing a seat belt. My butt may get a little sore in military trucks, but that's why they invented seat cushions.

SFC Floyd B. Olson
Waverly, Minn.

Haiti coverage excellent.

I'M WRITING TO TELL YOU HOW much I enjoyed "Spreading the Truth" and "Haiti Recovers" [Winter/Spring 1995]. The articles provided a close-up view of what our soldiers contributed to operations in Haiti. Both Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations soldiers perform a wide range of missions and their abilities are not always known to some commanders. I believe the on-the-scene descriptions provided by Lt.Col.

Bill Maddox and JoMarie Fecci were completely accurate and insightful. The supporting photographs were also excellent.

I'd like to clarify two minor points, however. The article states that 2nd PsyOp Group was activated for the Haiti mission, but it was actually the group's Support Element.

And while it is true that slightly more than 80 percent of U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne) soldiers are Reservists, that figure includes both Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations soldiers. About 32 percent of the PsyOp soldiers serve in the active Army within the 4th PsyOp Group (Airborne) at Fort Bragg, N.C.

I only point out these items because of the proud history of the 2nd POG and the dedicated efforts of the 4th POG(A) soldiers.

Capt. Gerard Healy
Fort Bragg, N.C.

Supply Excellence Awards

I'M WRITING TO INQUIRE ABOUT the "Supply Excellence Award" given out annually by the Department of the Army. In the past your magazine has listed all the winners, but I haven't seen the list for 1994.

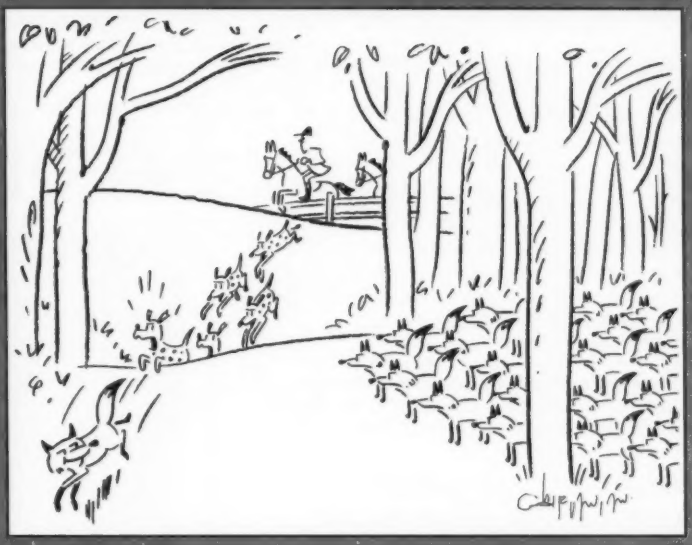
It's now been well over a year since we put in our packet. Did we miss it?

Capt. Charles Stachowski
Racine, Wis.

The results will be announced by DA sometime in July, 1995, and you'll see them published in the Fall issue.

We want to hear from you. Write ARMY RESERVE Magazine, Attn: Mailcall, 1815 North Fort Myer Drive, Suite 305, Arlington, VA 22209-1805. We can't print every letter, but we'll try to present a cross-section of views, opinions and questions of general interest. Your letter may be edited to conserve space.

at ease



"It's not a turban. It's a diesel."

ARMY SHORTS

ARMY RESERVE ATHLETES WIN IN PAN AM GAMES

Army Reserve athletes participating in the Pan Am Games held March, 1995 in Buenos Aires, Argentina won 15 medals in the international shooting matches.

Sgt. Ben Ammonette won individual silver medals in Air Pistol, Free Pistol and a bronze in Standard Pistol; plus two team pistol gold medals and one silver team pistol medal. Capt. Dave Johnson earned a silver medal in Free Rifle and Maj. Wanda Jewell won a bronze in three-position rifle.

Together, Sgt. Libby Callahan, Lt.Col. Terry Anderson, SFC Darius Young and Capt. John McNally earned seven team gold medals in pistol competition.

Outside the shooting arena, 1Lt. Jerry Jackson won a Silver Medal for Greco-Roman wrestling, 220 lbs.

The Pan American Games are the largest multi-sport international event being conducted in this hemisphere in 1995. Eight Army Reserve soldiers contended in the Games.

SHORTAGE OF ARMY RESERVE LPNs IS NOW CRITICAL

The Army Reserve has a critical shortage of Licensed Practical Nurses, MOS 91C. Only 44 percent of the LPN positions in the USAR are filled with qualified personnel. Since 70 percent of the Army's deployable medical assets come from the reserve components, this shortage is a serious problem for the Army.

There are no acceptable substitutes for 91C's; the soldiers are critical to the operation of a hospital. Licensed Practical Nurses provide 60 percent of the bedside nursing care in a deployable hospital. Hospital beds remain nonoperational without the nurses

The Army Reserve is working aggressively to relieve the 91C shortage. If you know an LPN or someone who would like to train to be one, you can be part of the solution to this problem. An enlistment bonus, education opportunities, and numerous other benefits are available for LPNs.

Help strengthen the Army Reserve. To refer an LPN, call (800) USA-ARMY, ext. 485. To refer someone who wants to train to be an LPN, call (800) USA-ARMY, ext. 484.

ARMY RESERVE MAGAZINE EARNS TOP AWARDS

Army Reserve magazine received the 1995 "Blue Pencil" award, presented by the National Association of Government Communicators as the best government magazine written for an internal audience.

The magazine also earned a Commendation in the 1995 "Bronze Anvil" competition for outstanding achievement in public relations, presented by the Public Relations Society of America.

" Try to say sumpin' funny, Joe."

WILLIE & JOE

Bill Mauldin achieved international fame as the youngest person ever to win a Pulitzer Prize with his famous World War II editorial cartoons. Though Willie and Joe were soldiers, service members of all branches could see themselves in their cartoons. Now 50 years after Mauldin brought Willie and Joe to the pages of the Stars and Stripes newspaper, they speak again to a new generation.

REIMER REPLACES SULLIVAN AS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF

Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, former commander of Forces Command, has been named Chief of Staff of the United States Army.

Reimer, a native of Medford, Okla., will replace Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan as the Army's top ranking officer.

Reimer has commanded FORSCOM since April 1993. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in field artillery and was awarded a bachelor of science degree from the U.S. Military Academy in 1962. Prior to assuming this post, he has held a variety of command and staff positions, including Army Vice Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, and commanding general of the 4th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Carson.

As Army Chief of Staff, Reimer will be the principal military advisor to the Secretary of the Army, responsible for planning, developing, executing and analyzing Army programs.

FEDERAL BENEFITS HANDBOOK NOW AVAILABLE

The 1995 edition of the VA booklet "Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents" is now available.

The 111-page handbook describes these benefits, including medical care, education, disability compensation, pension, life insurance, home loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation and burial assistance. It explains requirements for eligibility and outlines claims procedures. The booklet lists by state the addresses and telephone numbers of all VA benefits offices, medical centers, national cemeteries, counseling centers and other VA facilities.

It also lists VA's toll-free number (800) 827-1000, various other toll-free numbers for special VA services and an address for computer operators to access Veterans Affairs information on the World Wide Net Home Page Server.

For copies, request GPO stock number 051-000-00205-9 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20202-9325, and enclose a check or money order for $3.25 a copy. To order with VISA or Mastercard, call (202) 512-1800.

RESERVIST RECEIVES SOLDIER'S MEDAL

Maj. Mapu S. Jamias, a staff officer assigned to the 9th U.S. Army Reserve Command in Hawaii, saved the lives of two men swimming along a reef in American Samoa in April 1994.

A tourist from New Zealand and a second swimmer who went to help were caught in a strong current. Helpless, they became quickly exhausted and were swept out to sea.

Jamias grabbed a surfboard and paddled out to the two distressed swimmers. Unable to reach them, he tossed one end of a lavalava–a wrap-around skirt worn by Samoan men–to the men, grabbed his end between his teeth, dove down to the bottom of the reef, grabbed a coral head, and used brute strength to yank the men out of the current to safety. He then helped the exhausted swimmers back to shore.

A year earlier a U.S. Coast Guard member drowned at the same spot.

Jamias was awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism not involving actual combat with an enemy.

OUTSTANDING AVIATION UNIT

The 8th Battalion, 229th Aviation Regiment (Attack), 121st Army Reserve Command, received the Army Aviation Association's 1995 National Award for outstanding Army Reserve aviation unit.

The unit is one of only two AH-64 Apache equipped attack battalions in the USAR.

OFFICIAL MILEAGE RATE JUMPS TO 30 CENTS

Uncle Sam now pays government employees 30 cents a mile when they drive their own cars on official business. The jump from 25 cents took effect Jan. 1.

Reimbursements for using a motorcycle also increased, from 20 to 24.5 cents a mile. And, for those employees who might prefer flying their private airplanes on official business, the reimbursement rate nearly doubled, from 45 to 88.5 cents a mile.

SOLDIERS SUPPORTING HAITI WILL RECEIVE EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL

Soldiers who served in or directly supported Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti will receive the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

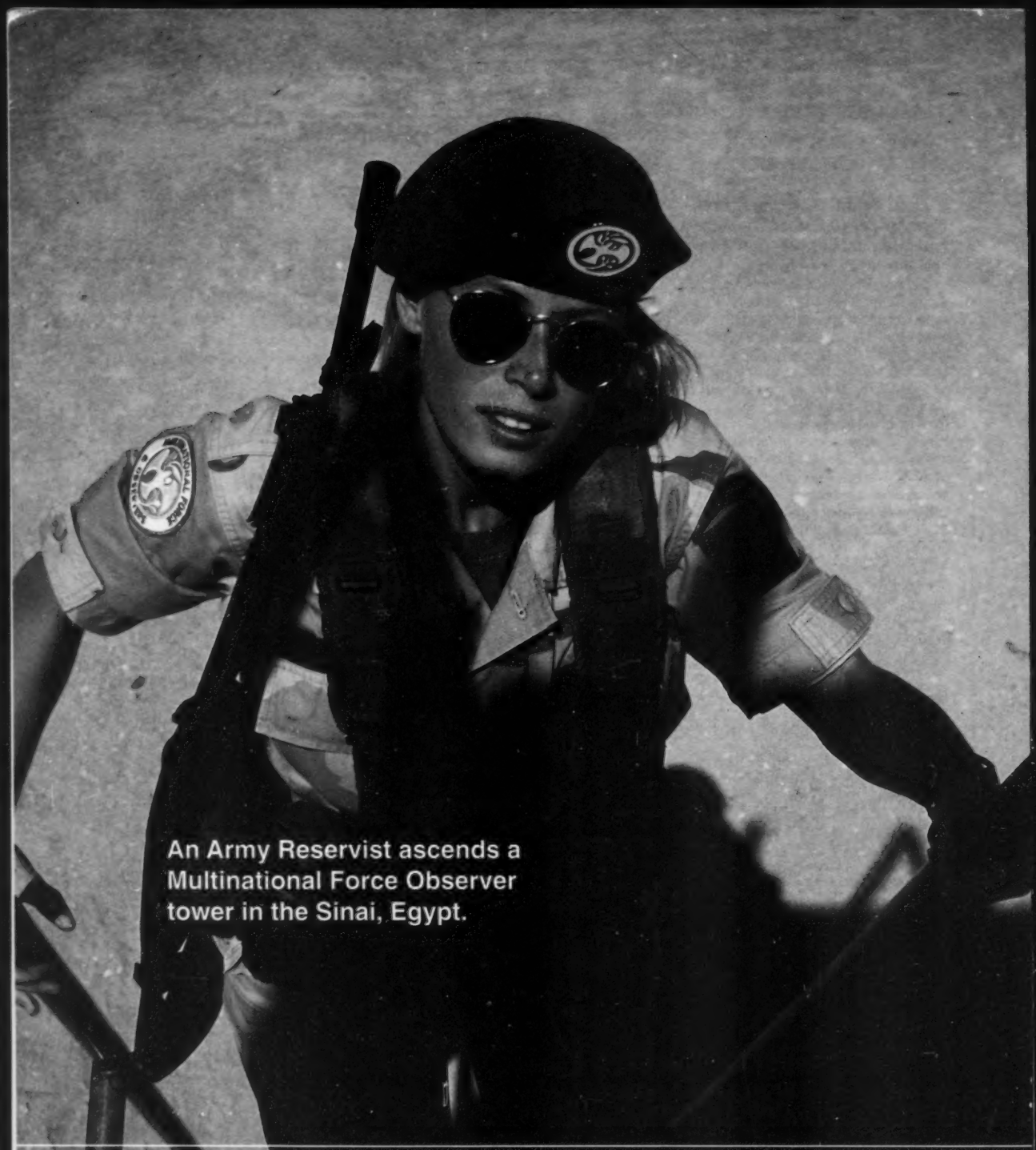
The award's opening date is Sept. 16, 1994, the day initial deployments to Haiti began. No closing date is set.

The award is limited to Uphold Democracy participants who actually served within a roughly 300-square-mile operations area centered on Haiti.

Of the nearly 20,000 troops who deployed to Port-au-Prince, Cap Haitien and other locations in and around Haiti, most qualify for the award.

Those not assigned to deployed units may qualify if they meet at least one specific requirement:

- Serve 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days in the area of operation;
- Serve in combat or hazardous duty during the operation with armed opposition, whatever time in the area;
- Serve as an aircraft crew member flying regular missions into the operation area; or
- Receive recommendation for the award from the service chief or commander of a unified command.



An Army Reservist ascends a Multinational Force Observer tower in the Sinai, Egypt.

Department of the Army
Army Reserve Magazine
1815 N. Fort Myer Drive, Suite 305
Arlington, VA 22209-1805

Official Business
Do Not Forward or Return

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage Paid
Louisville KY
Permit # 233

************************5-DIGIT 48103
UNIV MICROFILMS INTERNATIONAL
300 N ZEEB RD
ANN ARBOR MI 48103-1553